







Biogr. Sing.

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Rad

Whitaker

SIR JOHN RUSSELL

OF

THE PRINCE OF WALES
EARL OF STRAFFORD

THOMAS DUNHAM THURGOOD ESQ. OF
VILLAGE OF THAMES IN ENGLAND

THESE THINGS BEING THE PROPERTY OF THE
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MUSEUM OF THE
CITY OF LONDON

1811

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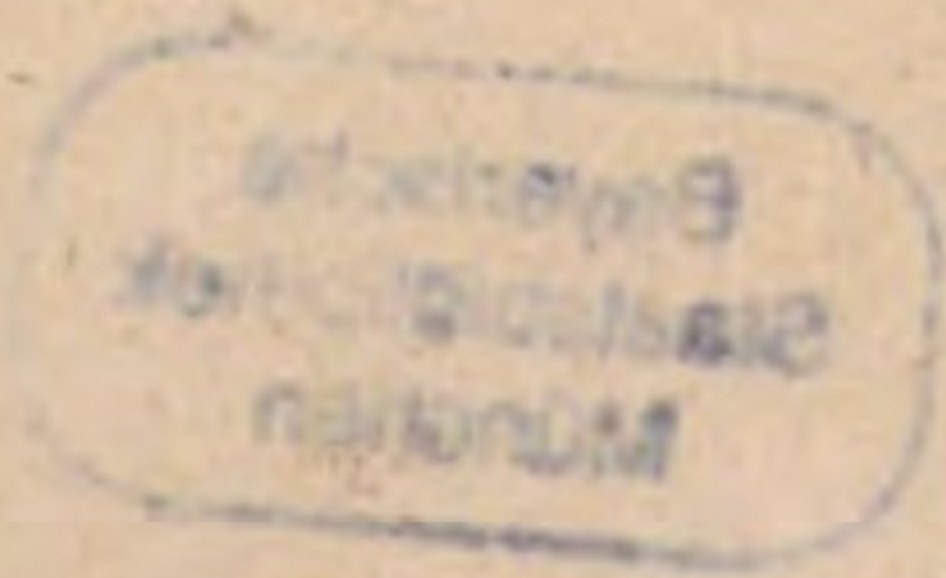
THE LIFE
AND
ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF
SIR GEORGE RADCLIFFE,
. KNIGHT, LL. D.
THE FRIEND OF THE
EARL OF STRAFFORD.

BY
THOMAS DUNHAM WHITAKER, LL. D. F.S.A.
VICAR OF WHALLEY IN LANCASHIRE.

RARO EMINENTES VIRI NON MAGNIS ADIVTORIBVS AD GVBERNANDAM
FORTUNAM SVAM VSI SVNT—ETENIM MAGNA NEGOTIA MAGNIS ADIVTO-
RIBVS EGENT—INTERESTQUE REIP. QVOD VSV NECESSARIVM ET DIGNI-
TATE EMINERE VTILITATEMQUE AVCTORITATE MVNIRI.

Vell. Paterculus, L. 2.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY JOHN NICHOLS AND SON,
Red Lion Passage, Fleet Street;
AND SOLD BY LONGMAN, HURST, REES, AND ORME, PATERNOSTER ROW;
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1810.



THE LIFE

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE

SIR GEORGE RADCLIFFE

KNIGHT, LL.D.

THE FRIEND OF THE

BARON OF STRAFFORD

THOMAS DUNHAM WHITAKER, LL.D.

VICAR OF WHARFEDALE PARISH

AND
FORTUNATELY IN THE
RIVE EXIST—INTERESTING
TATE EMERSE
J. H. P. 1810

LONDON

PRINTED BY JOHN KILGOUR AND SON

AND SOLD BY F. & J. M. 1810

Bayerische
Staatsbibliothek
München

TO

RICHARD HENRY BEAUMONT, Esq.

OF WHITLEY BEAUMONT, IN YORKSHIRE, F. S. A.

THIS VOLUME IS INSCRIBED,

AS A MEMORIAL OF THE UNINTERRUPTED AND PLEASING

INTERCOURSE ON ANTIQUARIAN SUBJECTS

WHICH HAS LONG SUBSISTED

BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE COMPILER ;

AND

AS AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT

OF THE MANY LITERARY OBLIGATIONS

CONFERRED BY HIM UPON THE LATTER, DURING THE PROGRESS

OF TWO LABORIOUS WORKS,

ALREADY IN THE POSSESSION OF THE PUBLIC.

ADVERTISEMENT TO THE READER

NICHOLAS HENRY, Esq.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the publication of the second volume of the "History of the State of New York," and in reply to inform you that the same has been forwarded to the printer, and will be ready for sale in a few days. I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
NICHOLAS HENRY, Esq.

ADVERTISEMENT TO THE READER.

TO the friendship and curiosity of Mr. BEAUMONT I was indebted for my knowledge of the existence of these Letters; while the copious extracts from them, with which his intelligence was accompanied, excited in my mind a considerable degree of anxiety to obtain a sight of the originals.

On the application of my respectable friend the Rev. Mr. ROBERSON^a, this favour was very obligingly granted by Mrs. ELMSALL the owner, together with a permission to make any use of their contents which I might deem expedient.

On a careful perusal I thought them too valuable to be left to the fate of many similar collections, which, having neither been printed nor placed in any great national repository of ancient papers, have either perished in the changes of family property, or remain perpetually exposed to that calamity.

In the following Work, however, I am scarcely to be considered in any other light than that of an Editor, having

^a Of Heald's Hall, near Leeds.

merely prefixed to the Letters a short account of the Writer's earlier years, and subjoined to them some reflexions on his conduct as a public man; together with a short narration of his exile and death. Besides this, a few explanatory notes, where explanation appeared to be wanted, will be found to constitute all which I can lay claim to as an author.

On the whole, this Volume may be considered as a sequel to the Collection of "Lord Strafford's Letters;" to the Editor of which, the contents of it were evidently unknown; and for that reason, had the quantity of matter permitted, it would have been expanded into a thin folio, in order to bind up uniformly with that magnificent work. By means, indeed, of Carte's "Life of Ormond," and "Thurloe's State Papers," this object might still have been accomplished, had not an aversion to the modern arts of book-making long since determined me, in every Collection which I might lay before the Public, to confine myself to original matter.

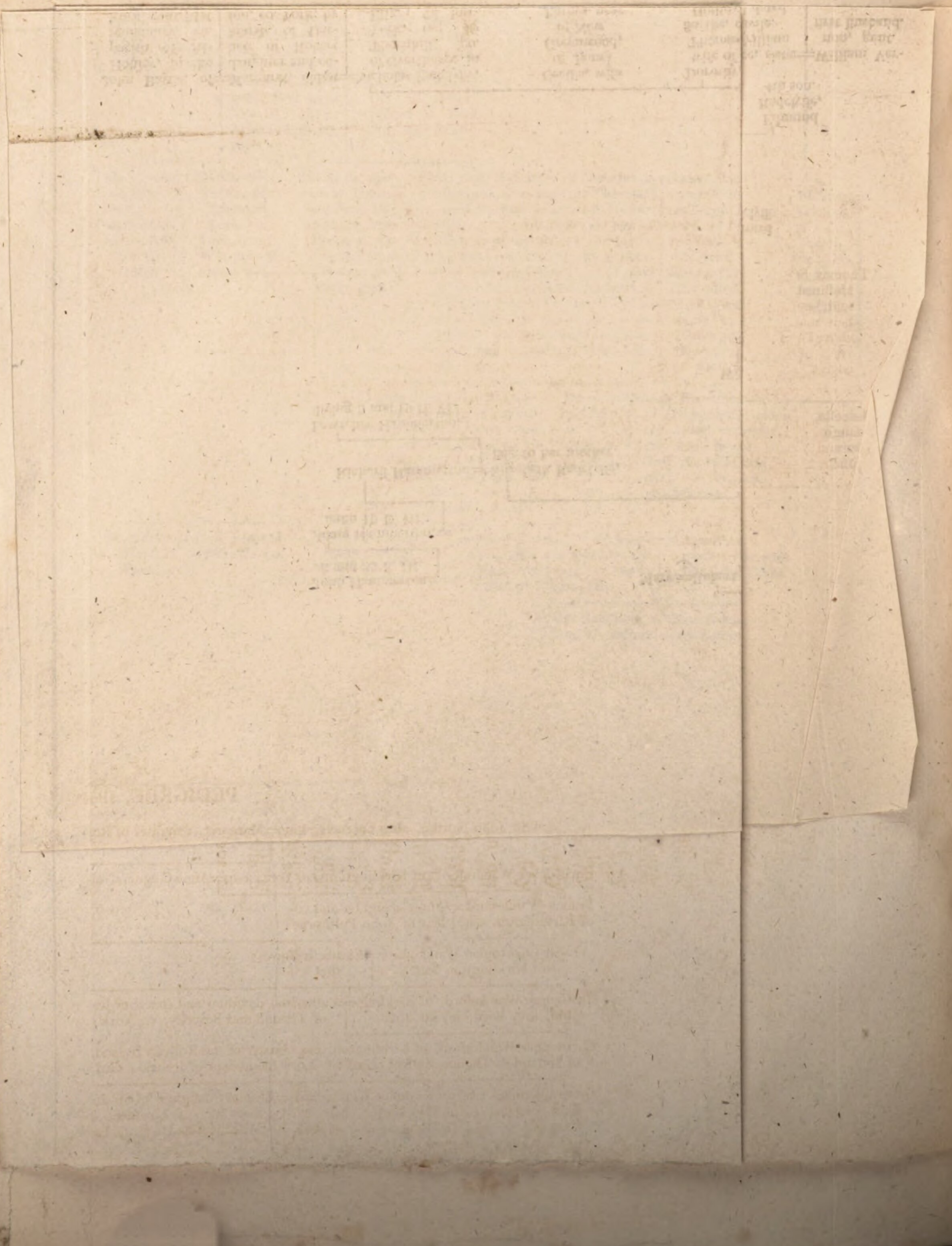
The History of Sir George Radcliffe's Letters, for which the Reader will naturally feel some curiosity, is briefly this:

Mr. THOMAS RADCLIFFE, the only child of the Author, died at Dublin in 1679, not only without issue, but without any very near collateral relatives on the father's side; in conse-

quence of which, and of that influence which servants have sometimes the merit and oftener the cunning to acquire over wealthy old bachelors, he was induced to divide his property, by will, between a maternal aunt and a confidential domestic.

The paternal estate and family house at Overthorpe were soon after sold by his executors, I believe immediately to the ELMSALL family, by whom, according to the best information I have been able to obtain, these Letters, &c. were discovered in an old neglected trunk or bureau, and have ever since been preserved with the care and respect to which they are entitled.

T. D. W.



Thomas Sa
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Isabella,
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PEDIGREE, she

Sir John Norton, alias Coigners, knt. = Margaret, daughter of Rog

Christopher Wandesford, of Kirklington, co. York, esq. = Anne Coigners, ali

Francis Wandesford, = Anne, daughter and co-
of Kirklington, esq. heir of John Fulthorpe.

Sir Christopher Wandesford, = Elizabeth Bowes ;
of Kirklington, knt. first wife.

Sir George Wandesford, of Kirkling- = Catherine, daughter and coheir of Ra
ton, knt. born May 20, 1573. of Tickhill and Beverley, co. York ;

Christopher Wandesford, of Kirklington, esq. Master of the Rolls in Ireland,
of Ireland to Thomas Earl of Strafford, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland ; died

George Wandes- Sir Christopher Wandesford, = Eleanor, daughter of Sir Jo
ford, died un- of Kirklington, bart. æt. Lowther, of Lowther, c
married. about 39, in August 1665. Westmoreland, kt. and ba

THE LIFE

OF

SIR GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

THE town of RADCLIFFE, or Red Cliffe, in the county of Lancaster, so called from a rock of that colour which there overhangs the river Irwell, gave name to a family, who, having been lords of the manor and patrons of the advowson beyond the period to which records extend, rose almost to the summit of English Nobility under the title of Earls of Sussex. The magnificent remains of their mansion have been noticed in another work^a. The branches from this antient stock were numerous and fortunate; in the county of Lancaster alone the name of Radcliffe long flourished in wealth and honour; at Wimmersley and Clitheroe (the immediate ancestors of the House of Derwentwater), at Ordsall, Edgworth, Chadderton, Foxdenton, and Todmorden. From

^a History of Whalley, p. 401.

the last of these, which was transplanted to that place by William de Radcliffe in the reign of Edward III. descended the subject of this memoir.

Todmorden is, or rather was, before the introduction of manufactories, a sequestered and beautiful village at the foot of Blackstonedge, in the parish of Rochdale, situated at the junction of three valleys, whose sides are hung with native oak. It was then accessible only to single horses, and, like the seats of some wealthy families in the bosom of Wales at present, refused to its owner the accommodation of a carriage. Adjoining to the Manor-house is the parochial Chapel, which, in the total absence of written evidence, I conjecture from circumstances to have been built by the family in the reign of Henry VIII. the Parish-church of Rochdale lying at the distance of nine miles—and in the church-yard still remain several plain tomb-stones of the Radcliffes, of which three only have inscriptions, the rest being marked only by the armorial bearings of the family, without impalements. The manor-house itself was rebuilt by Savile Radcliffe, esq. about the beginning of the reign of Charles I. as appears from his arms yet remaining in the dining-room, and impaling the coat of Catherine Hyde of Norbury his last wife.

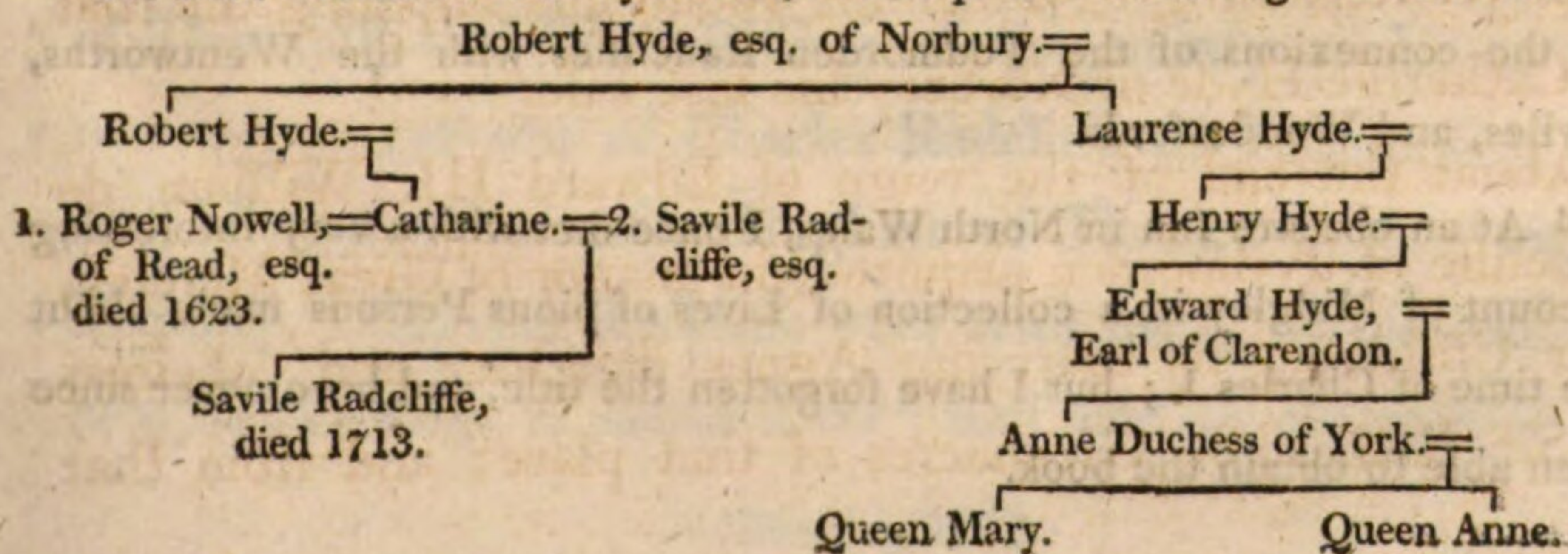
About the end of the reign of Edward III. William de Radcliffe of Todmorden acquired the manor of Great Mereley, near Clitheroe, by marrying Agnes daughter and coheiress of Sir Richard de Greenacres of that place; and from that

time to their extinction, the family, according to the custom of those days, resided upon each of their estates alternately, in order to occupy their domains, which could not be demised to tenants but to great disadvantage, and to consume their produce, for which there was no market.

In the Church of Clitheroe is a family choir, appropriated to the manor of Mereley, in which several of the Radcliffes are interred, but without any memorial.

The last male of this antient name in the direct line was Joshua Radcliffe, esq. who dying young in 1676 left an only daughter Anne, afterwards married to Roger Mainwaring, esq. of Kerrincham in Cheshire. Mainwaring was a profligate man, and successively dissipated all the estates of the family. But long after the alienation of Mereley the house was inhabited by Savile Radcliffe, great uncle of the last possessor, and son of Savile Radcliffe by Catherine Hyde of Norbury, through whom he was nearly related to Lord Chancellor Hyde^b, and consequently to the reigning Sovereign Queen Anne;—yet this man died in a situation little above want, upon an annuity

^b See Lord Clarendon's Life by himself, vol. I. p. I. — The Pedigree stands thus :



adapted to the habits and expences of the foregoing century^c.

To account for the style and spirit of the first series of letters in the following collection, it may be proper to observe, that the Radcliffes, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth and her successor, were a religious family, somewhat tinctured with the prejudices of Puritanism. This appears from the characteristic fondness of that party for Old Testament names; as Joshua, Jephtha, Jonas, Caleb; all of which occur, and some more than once, in the compass of two generations. But the fact was this:—The first Protestant vicar of Rochdale was Robert Midgley, a pious, active, and useful parish minister, whose fervid preaching and useful example, continued by the blessing of Providence for almost half a century, were the means of reclaiming many dissolute persons, and of giving a tincture of seriousness and sobriety to the whole parish^d. These excellent qualities were in some degree allayed by that unhappy aversion to some of the ceremonies of the

^c The annexed Pedigrees, for which I am principally indebted to the kindness of William Radcliffe, esq. Rouge Croix, will explain at one view all the connexions of the Todmorden Radcliffes with the Wentworths, Saviles, and Wandesfords.

^d At an obscure Inn in North Wales, I once met with a very interesting account of Midgley in a collection of Lives of pious Persons made about the time of Charles I.; but I have forgotten the title, and have never since been able to obtain the book.

Church, which then possessed many pious minds, though without a tincture of that acrimony against its general constitution which in the next generation broke out with such fatal violence.

This man was, during the long period I have mentioned, the parish minister of the Radcliffes; the inferior clergy of the parish which were of his appointment, would surely be selected from men of kindred dispositions; and it is more than probable that those of whom I write are at this moment blessing him and them as the instruments of their salvation. Midgley has had more than one successor of a congenial spirit.

Let not those who have followed, wholly ascribe the comparative inefficacy of their endeavours to the levity, the wealth, or the pride of the present generation. Human nature, in distant times, presented to the exertions of the Clergy different but equal difficulties; and the same earnestness and orthodoxy with which these old and faithful ministers encountered them will never be without success.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE, the immediate subject of this memoir, was the son of Nicholas Radcliffe of Overthorpe, in the parish of Thornhill and West Riding of the county of York, who was a younger son of Charles Radcliffe of Todmorden, esq. and Margaret his wife, daughter of Thomas Savile, esq. of Ecclesey. Charles Radcliffe was, with many of his countrymen, at the siege of Leith 1560^e; and died an old man in the

^e Townley MSS.

33d of Elizabeth. His mother was Mawd Nowell, aunt of Alexander Nowell, the memorable dean of St. Paul's. He had four sons, Henry, Nicholas, Robert, and Alexander. Henry succeeded to the paternal estates; Nicholas appears to have been bred to the law, and to have managed the concerns of the Savile family; Robert is simply styled Gentleman; Alexander was a barrister of Gray's Inn, and from many hints in the ensuing letters appears to have deviated very widely from the moral and religious character of his family. In 1599 Nicholas died, and was buried at Thornhill, in the choir of which Church was extant, in Dodsworth's time, the following epitaph:

“ Here lyeth the body of Nicholas Radclyffe, whose constant religious lief, together with his godly end, God grant they may make others to imbrace true piety. Amen.

1599.

Mihi vita Christus^f.”

Among other legacies in the will of Nicholas Radcliffe, he bequeaths to the Right Worshipful Sir George Savile, knt. his best gelding, trusting and hoping that he will stand and continewe a faithfull and friendlie mayster and favourer of his wief and children:—To George Savile, esq. sonne and heire-apparant to the said Sir George, ten angells, to be paide at his age of one and twentie yeares, to buy him a jewell:—To Dame Elizabeth Savile, two angells, to make a ringe with:—

^f Vol. CLXII. fol. 80.

To Sir John Savile of Howley, knyghte, one sylver cuppe called a tankerde, desiring him that he would have a favourable care over his-children:—To Edward Whitakers, clerk, parson of Thornhill, 20s.:—And lastly, to Henry Radcliffe, esq. his brother, who died the same year, a cross bowe and racke^g.—The portion of his daughter Elizabeth was 800*l*.; a large sum in those days, when the dramatic Poet represented 700*l*. as an object to fortune-hunters.—Margaret Radcliffe, his faithful and affectionate widow, survived him nearly thirty years, which long period of time she seems to have occupied, as became her condition, in the exercises of religion and charity, and in superintending the concerns and education of her son.

In this and the following generation the Radcliffe family produced many excellent and useful men: among these, omitting for the present the subject of this memoir, was Charles Greenwood, son of James Greenwood, of the antient House of Greenwood Lee, and Cecilia Radcliffe, sister of Nicholas and daughter of Charles Radcliffe of Todmorden. He was fellow and tutor of University College in Oxford, and afterwards rector of Thornhill, where he died, and was interred in 1644—a man not to be remembered without gratitude by that Society, as it was principally by the ample

^g This confirms an opinion which I have elsewhere expressed, that the Rack was two centuries ago a distinct instrument from the Cross-bow.

legacies^h which he bequeathed for the purpose, that the present College was erected.

Contemporary with him was Jonas Radcliffe, younger son of Henry Radcliff of Todmorden, B. D. fellow and tutor of the same college, a lame man, but of a pleasing and amiable temper, whose character is well described in the following epitaph, which was removed on the rebuilding of the College into the present Chapel, where it still remains, a specimen of very elegant Latinity, with one blemish, which I leave to be detected by the classical reader :

“DEPOSITUM JONÆ RADCLIFFE LANCASTRIENSIS, QUI AGRO TODMORDENO NATALES SUOS, STUDIA OXONIO, IMPUTAT. GENTILITIUM DECUS LITERARIIS LAUDIBUS CUMULAVIT, HAUD INANIBUS LITERARUM TITULIS DECORUS, QUORUM CITRA SUPREMUM, QUANQUAM MERITIS SUIS DEBITUM, SUBSTITIT MODESTIA VIRI SINGULARIS. SPATIUM FAMÆ HAUD SATIS AMPLUM CONCESSIT PEDUM INFIRMITAS, QUÆ ILLUM, AB SCENA ET ACTU RERUM SUMMOTUM, INTRA UNIUS COLLEGII CLATHROS, VELUT ZOOPHYTUM HOMINIS, LITERARIÆ GLEBÆ

^h Fifteen hundred pounds, perhaps equivalent to five times that sum at present, were obtained after long suits at law from one Foxcroft, Mr. Greenwood's executor. He had bequeathed an indefinite sum for the purchase of lands worth 100*l.* *per annum*, which 1500*l.* would then have done ; so that I see no ground for Wood's vehement charge of unfaithfulness against Foxcroft, excepting that he was compelled to do his duty.—Vide Hist. et Ant. Univ. Oxon. lib. ii. p. 58.

ALLIGAVIT; AT FRUCTUM ET USUM ERUDITIONIS NE SIC QUIDEM INVIDIT, QUEM ILLE NOBILIUM JUVENUM ANIMIS MORIBUSQUE INFORMANDIS SEDULO IMPENDIT, SOLERTISSIMUS MORUM ARCHITECTUS ET BONÆ MENTIS FABER. FUIT IPSE SUAVISSIMO MORUM TEMPERAMENTO, QUORUM ILLICIO FREQUENTES SIBI AMICOS CONCILIAVERAT, OPPORTUNUM UTIQUE PRÆSIDIUM ADVERSUS TÆDIUM SOLITUDINIS CUIUS EUM DAMNAVERAT EADEM QUÆ DOMI PERPETUO ADFIXIT PEDUM IMBECILLITAS. RELIGIONEM ET PIETATEM SINCERE COLUIT, PRUDENS THEOLOGIÆ MYSTA, QUAM NON TAM SCHOLÆ QUAM VITÆ DIDICERAT, CUIUS FRUCTUM IN EXTREMO VITÆ EXODIO TULIT, CUM POST BIENNALEM LANGUOREM INNOCENTEM ANIMAM REDDIDIT CÆLO.

OBIIT A. D. MDCXXVI. AUG. XXII^o ÆT. SUÆ LVI.

BEATÆ MEMORIÆ POSUERUNT CONSOBRINUS CHARISSIMUS
ET MÆRENS NEPOS."

The *mærens nepos* must have been Savile Radcliffe of Todmorden, esq. the head of the family; the *consobrinus charissimus* may either have been the subject of the present work, or another distinguished character of the same house, Samuel Radcliffe, to whom the reader will be introduced in the following correspondence as Proctor of the University, and who died Principal of Brazennose about the year 1648, having complied with the changes of the times.—From two portraits of this Principal in the College Hall, he appears to have been a very handsome man.

Another nephew of Jonas Radcliffe, and, like him, fellow of University College, was Thomas Radcliffe, afterwards Secretary to the Treasury, while Bishop Juxon held the Staff of Treasurer.—With this catalogue of family names, I should have been happy to connect another of more recent and general fame—the munificent Founder of the Radcliffe Library—who was also bred in the favoured College of the family. But of the birth and parentage of Dr. John Radcliffe, I only know that he was the son of a George Radcliffe, gent. and baptized at Wakefield, A. D. 1652-3. He boasted an immediate alliance with the family of Derwentwater; and I cannot disprove his claim, by connecting him with the humbler, but perhaps the more virtuous and respectable, branch of Todmorden.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE, born at his father's house in Overthorpe, was baptized at Thornhillⁱ, April 21st, 1593. The years of infancy afford no materials to the biographer. When he was six years old, his father, then about the age of sixty, died of a consumption^k, and left him, together with a sister, under the care of his pious and excellent mother, to whose

ⁱ Parish Register ibidem.

^k His case, which was plainly a pulmonary consumption, was stated by Charles Greenwood to a physician at Oxford; and a letter from him, containing some prescriptions, is extant in the collection. Greenwood's hand was also beautiful.

instruction and example, before and for some years after that event, was, under Providence, owing the serious and religious turn of mind which in youth and age, as well as under great diversities of fortune, the son appears to have maintained with undeviating constancy. It does not appear who were his first instructors, or where he imbibed the first tincture of literature : but at the age of fourteen we find him not only a competent classical scholar, but perfect in another accomplishment rarely attained at that early age ; for his first letters are written in a hand as fair and regular as his last. At this period he was placed under the care of Mr. Hunt of Oldham¹, in Lancashire, a schoolmaster of great eminence, to whose care were consigned not only many of the sons of the neighbouring gentry, but some of noble birth.

Here his epistolary correspondence begins ; and the first letters of this amiable and interesting boy are given with all their native artlessness, and all their particularity of detail, as a faithful picture of that antient simplicity, minute œconomy, filial duty, and reverential affection for instructors, which are now no more.

At such plain expositions of antient manners, men of the world may sneer if they think proper ; but let even a modern

¹ A populous village on the skirts of the Yorkshire Hills, but in the parish of Prestwich, in the county of Lancashire. The parochial Chapel was built by Ralph Langley, warden of Manchester, and rector of Prestwich, A.D. 1476.—Browne Willis, *Mitred Abbeyes*, vol. i. p. 330.

father of rank and fortune lay his hand upon his heart and say if he can, that, as the companion and comfort of his old age, he would not prefer a son like George Radcliffe, to a disciple of our great classical seminaries at present, who brings away with him a much greater horror of inelegance than of vice, and who has been more anxiously instructed in the *minutiæ* of Greek metres than in the doctrines and principles of Christianity. For the religious education of this good man had no tendency to make him a recluse—it did not disqualify him from filling the highest and most active stations of Government—on the contrary, it fitted him to discharge the duties of them with dignity and honour, to bear prosperity with an equal mind, and to sustain the united pressure of old age, sickness, poverty, and exile, with meekness and resignation.

LETTERS.

1.

MOST LOVING MOTHER,

August 1st, 1607.

THESE are to let you understand that we are all well at Oldham. I had thought to have written before this, but that I had other occasion. I thank you for the books which I received of myne uncle Lockwood, and he, I thank him, gave me another book, which he heard my Maister say I wanted. I like verie well here at Oldham, though many say that I am paired^m; I doubt that I shall break forth by reason of chang of aire, for some pimples do arise in my hands, and many say that they began so, yet I lie with nobodyⁿ. I received yesterday two shirt-bands by George Armitage the carrier; I also received of William Ward, *alias* Winkes, a set of song-books of the two prints of gingerbread, the one to my Maister, the other to myself; and two cakes, the

^m *i. e.* impaired, grown thin—the dialect of his country.

ⁿ An hint that a certain ignoble complaint was at that time not unfrequent in boarding-schools.

one from my cousin Robert. I was not at Todmordine yet, nor will not go until my cosin Greenwood come, for I hope to see him and my brothere ere it be longe. There is a book of myne at Wakefield which I lent to one of Cambridge, and one of Oswald Laborne's sonnes doth keepe it; if it be not comme I pray send for it as sone as may be, and send it to me. Heere is a piggeon which my Maister hath sent you, which came out of France; it is a cocke, and will have any tame piggeon to his mate; those piggeons that come of it are better than itself; I pray keepe it awhile in the house, and give it meat often, and it will stay; it will eat any thing°. I pray commend me to my brother, both my sisters, my cosin Robert, and thank him for his cake, my cosin Margaret, and my daughter^p Elizabeth (whom I pray God blesse!), and all our good frends. Thus desyringe your dayly prayers unto God for me, I commend you to the protection of the Almighty.

Oldham, this Saturday being the first of August, 1607.

Your obedient sonne,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Many things more I had to have written, but that I heard say that you would come, and then I shall declare them unto you more at large.

° His fondness for pigeons seems to have continued till he became a Statesman.

^p God-daughter.

GOOD MOTHER,

August 7th, 1607.

You might think it a very unnatural part in me, having so good opportunitie, if I would not write unto you; but lest you should thinke so, I could not at this tyme but write, although I have but small matter whereof to write. I received of George Armitage the carrier my hat, and the and cloth that you carried the piggeons in. My Master hath sent for some bookes to London, which will cost above twenty shillings, but I can not be without them. I have sente you heere your knife, which my Maister has caused to be new dressed, and a which my Mistress saith is yours, and gave it to me to send unto you. I hope to see my unkle come to day, and my uncle Lockwood said that if he would call on him he would come too. I would gladly see my cosin Charles; I hope to see him ere long; if he come he shall not come before he be looked for. I pray you commend me to my brother and sisters, and all our good friends. Thus desyringe your daileye blessings I take my leave.

From Oldham, the 7th of August, 1607.

Your obedient sonne,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

*To his deere and lovinge Mother Mrs. MARGARET RADCLIFFE,
at Thornhill in Yorkshire.*

GOOD MOTHER,

January 13th, 1607.

HAVING little time, and the weather verie cold, I am constrained to write both briefly and ilfavouredly. First, therefore, as my duty byndes me, I humblie crave your dayly prayers unto Almighty God for me, and I humblie and hartlie thank you for all kindnesse towards me. Comminge to Longley on Sunday the weather was not verie cold, for we was warm by reason of our much goinge on foote; when we came thither we was very welcome, for both Sir R. Bellamonte^a and Mr. Pilkington and Mr. Ramsdens were verie kindlie.— On Monday the morning was verie calme: going by the way we called at my Uncle's, but they were gone; we lighted at Marsden, and sate there; cominge to Peele and Staninge the wynde was so boysterous that we could hardly stand, and being both cold and some of us half sick we went to Saddleworth on Monday at night, and there we stayed all night: the next morning was very windy till noon: at noon we set forth, and so came we (God be thanked!) at Oldham in the afternoon^r.

^a Sir Richard Beaumont of Whitley, bart.

^r Such was the state of the roads two centuries ago, that a journey of little more than 25 miles took up almost three days. At present, the same line is travelled on horseback with ease in half a day.

We are all in good health (praysed be God!) here at Oldham. I pray you send the licorice within this fortnight, pounds 8. My Master would gladlie come to Wakefield if he could get the Schoole: I have heard some commendations of him that hath it (a good while since), but now I heare he is a very proud swaggering fellowe. Thus with my hartiest re'mendations to all our good friends I take my leave.

Oldham, this Wednesday January 13th, 1607.

Your most loving and most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

January 27th.

My humble duety remembred unto you, loving mother, trusting in God that you are in good health. This is to let you understand that I would gladlie see you shortly at Oldham, for I think my Master hath not libertie passing five weeks, as I feare. Thus in haste I thought good to certify you of it, because I looke for you and my sister Marie this Lente. Thus I commit you to the p'tection of Almighty, beseeching you to remember me in your sole prayers to God for me that he would blesse my good endeavors.

From Oldham, this 27th of Januarie.

Your most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

5.
MY DEAREST LOVING MOTHER,

YOUR kindness and goodness ever towards me is such and so great as I thinke (nay, I assuredly knowe) that I shall never be able to recompence the lest part of it, much less to make a full requital for them all; for I assure myself that there was never a sonne more bound to a mother than I am to you; wherefore, my good and carefull mother, I might be thought very ungratefull, and of an inhumane nature, if I should not be thankfull for them, and labour by all possible means as far as in me lyeth to requite some part of them, which thinge, by God's good assistance, I will strive to doe. We are all in good health, prayesd be God! at Oldham, but that my Master is very sore in the cold, for he can hardly speake, insomuch that he got one to preache for him yesterday; yet now, (God be thanked!) he amends. He thanks you hartily for his sirrop. I hope to see you and my sister on Palme Sunday here at Oldham. One of our scholars goes towards Cambridge on Wednesday. I pray you, deare mother, to my cosin Robert, and all the gang of that learning which John Hall hath taught him, I meane his swearing and such like, which he thinke nothinge, that you know are great and prophane othes. Pardon, I pray you, these my rude and I pray you to remember my kindest commendations to my uncle Nettleton, brother, sisters, cosen Ro. Geo. Maria, and Elizabeth Nettleton, whom I praye God blesse! Thus,

with the remembrance of my humble duty to you, craving your dailye prayers, I take my leave, committing you to the Almightye's protection.

Oldham, this Monday morning.

Your most loving and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

To the Worshipfull his deare and loving Mother

Mrs. Radcliffe, at Thornhill, these.

6.

MY MOST DEARE AND LOVING MOTHER, *February 29th.*

My humble dutie remembered unto you, thanking you for all your goodnesse and kindnesse ever towards me (for they are so many as I shall never be able to requite the lest part of them; yet, by God's good grace, I will strive to do it as far as in me lies.) These rude lines are to signify to you that I received by George Armitage a great pie and 4 little ones, 4 oate cakes, and a book, from you and my sisters. We are all well (praysed be God!) here at Oldham, expecting your coming when the weather waxeth warmer: as touching my Maister's liberty^t, he will certify you in his le'r. I know not certainly when Mr. Fra. Wortley goes away, but I thinke about Easter. The next Communion day (as I take it) is on

^t I suspect Mr. Hunt to have been prosecuted in the Episcopal Court for Nonconformity.

Palm Sunday; and if it please you to come then, you may^u. I lacke nothings, (thankes be to God!) but am very kindly used here at Oldham; onely your prayers unto God for me, which I hope I have.

My Maister, Mrs. Mr. Francis, and all our friends, commend themselves hartily unto you, and my brother and sisters. Thus, with my most harty commendations to my brother and sisters, I commit you to the Almightye's protection.

Oldham, the 29th of Februarie.

Your most lovinge and most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I think my Maister shall not be called till May day, for the Bishop's Pursivant^x hath promised him (if he be called) to stay two or three Court days.

7.

MY MOST DEARE AND LOVINGE MOTHER,

My humble dutie remembered unto you, thanking you for all your goodness and kindness ever towards me.— These rude lines are to signifie unto you that we are all in good health here at Oldham, (God be praised!) as I hope you are. I received from you the last week a pair of shoes, and a pair of with a letter within them from my uncle Carre. My Maister, I thinke, will be with you in the holidays, be-

^u It appears to have been the practice of the Puritans to frequent distant communions where the Minister was popular.

^x See note ^t, p. 19.

cause both we leave the School, and that John Ramsden, with all the rest that doe go home, do go on Saturday. I pray you send me a horse, that I may come home on Saturday. Thus, with my most humble duety unto you, and commendations to all our good friends, I take my leave.

Oldham, this Tuesday morning.

Your most loving and most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

8.

GOOD MOTHER,

September 9th.

MY most humble dutie remembered, thanking you most hartily for all your goodnesse and kindnesse shewed unto me. These few lines are to signify unto you that we are all in good health (God be thanked!) here at Oldham. My Maister's sonne is come home long since, and I thinke will remaine with us all winter. My cousin Charles was at Oldham the last weeke, and I had thoughte to have written unto you, but because I had so little time by reason of his short staying, I could not. I have received a Greek Lexicon, and a Latin Dictionarie, which my Maister sent for to London, the one cost ...s. vi^d. as I take it, and the other viii. The pocks are, as it were, a plague amongst us, and very many die of them in our country. There was a very lamentable accident upon Monday last; for Sir Richard Worsley^y, the flower

^y This was before the institution of Baronets; and I cannot conceive how a school-boy happened to be knighted—but so in the original.

of our house, dyed of the pocks that day about none: he began to be sicke the Friday before: he endured his sicknesse as patiently as was admirable, and when the pains of death came upon him, he laie so quietly as made the beholders wonder, havinge often in his mouth this sayinge, "Lord have mercy upon me—Sweet Jesus, receive my soule." Thus, in haste, desiring your dayle prayers unto Almighty God for me, I humblie take my leave.

Oldham, this instant 9th September.

Your most lovinge and most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

I pray you remember my commendations to my brother and sisters, and all our good friends.

9. *October 5th.*

THE opportunitie of this bearer at the long intermission of my letters, my deare and lovinge Mother, made me att this tyme that I could not omitte this so fitte an opportunitie. These, therefore, are to give you most humble and earty thanks for all your kindnes and goodnes towards mee, having no better recompence to render for the same. We are all in good healthe (praysed be God!) here at Oldham. Mr. and Mrs. Hunte remember themselves unto you, and my brother and sisters, most kindly. I received by Thomas Donforde, this bearer, a 6. 7, and 3 prints of gingerbreade,

one to me, another to Robert, and another to Jerimye; and 5 peares to my cousin Robert and mee from you, and 1 peare and 2 apples to Jerimye from you. We desire greatlye to see you at Oldham, according to your promise, for we My cousin Robert is well (God be thanked!) and remembereth his dutie most humbly unto you, and his most carefull parents. Thus, with my humble dutie and commendations to my kyne brother and sisters, desyringe your dalie prayers, I take my leave.

From Oldham, this 5th of October.

Your most lovinge and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

10.

MOST KIND AND LOVING MOTHER,

November 10th.

My humble duty remembered, thankinge you for all your goodnesse shewed unto me. These are to let you know that we are all in good health here at Oldham, (God be thanked!) and have bene ever since my cominge. My Maister went to Oldcoats^z, to my Lady Cavendish, the Thursday after

^z In Derbyshire, one of the houses built by the famous Countess of Shrewsbury. This Lady Cavendish was wife of William Lord Cavendish, afterwards created Earl of Devon, widow of Sir Richard Wortley of Wortley, and mother of Mr. Francis Wortley, here mentioned. At Wortley, the scene of the Dragon of Wortley, which is situated on the banks of the Don, and environed by some of the most extensive and beautiful native woods in the kingdom, are the remains of an Inscription perfectly

I came, and will return againe to night, as we thinke. I did send for Tullie's Offices, but it did not come yet. I pray you get me a book bought at Wakefield, and send me it as soon as may be. I pray you commende me to all our friends. This in haste, cravinge your daily blessinge, I take my leave.
Oldham, the 10th of November.

Your obedient sonne,
GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

To his very loveing Mother Mrs. M. Radcliffe,
at Thornhill, these.

unique in its kind, which I shall insert for its romantic wildness, as it was copied and described, when entire, by Roger Dodsworth a few years after the date of this letter.

"In Wharncliffe Chace, Sir Francis Wortley's [the individual person here mentioned] on a great stone near the Lodge wherein are cut 3 Seats or Chaires, in w^{ch} Rock are engr^d y^s words :

Pray for the Soule of Sir Thomas Wortley Knight for the King's body to Edwarde the fourthe, Richard the thirde, Harry the VII and VIII. Nowe Saules God pardon. Which Thomas caused a House to be mad for this Cas ne mydest of Whernclief for his Pleasor and to her the Hertes * bel in the pere of our Lord a thousand CCCCX"—MSS. Vol. 162. fol. 101.

* i. e. the Stags bellow.

GOOD MOTHER,

November 18th.

My humble and most bounden duety remembered. We are all well (God be thanked!) Therefore, as my cosin Roberte is more mirrie now than when you was here with us, there is one with us that is redly to do any thing for me he canne at any tyme (not he that spoke to you), who desireth you to send him word, so that this bearer know not, how you sell a load of wheat and rye; I pray you help him to it as soone as you can; I thinke he will come to you for it shortly, if he may have it: he also desyreth to have 2 pounds of the best licorice, and he will pay: he intreated me to tell you when you was here, but I forgotte. Here is a cord which I have sent from my Maister to Thomas Beatesonne. My Maister would not have you by me any shoes, for he would have me have a pair of his own hyde^z the nexte weeke, if it pleaseth you; but they cannot make me so good shoes as Hepworth. Thus, desyringe your blessinge and daylie prayers, with commendations to my brother and sisters, and thanks for his..... I take my leave, craving pardon for these.

Oldham, this 18th of November.

Your most lovinge and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^z A relick of the old œconomy, under which cloaths, shoes, &c. were made at home of materials previously laid in, or perhaps manufactured by the owner's servants.

December 8th.

THE bruit beasts are kind to their keepers, and shew no little grief when they are drawn asunder—wherefore, how brutish should I seeme, my dear and most loving Mother, if I should not take this long wont of your wished sight somewhat to hart^a; and if in this myne absence I should not shew all thankfullnesse for your motherly goodness always towards me, the which I have so ill performed now of late that I thinke myselfe a most ungrateful and unkind wretch; yet, my good Mother, beare with me, for that hath not beene in want of undissembled dutifulle love, or in the carelesse neglect of bounden dutye, but of the hard holding of my lovinge and most careful Maister to the profitable exercises of good literature, as he can (and if need were, would) willinglye witness. But, *quorsum hæc*? I doubt not but that (according to your accostomed kindnesse always towards me) you will accept this my just excuse for the tyme past, and I trust will to see you shortly, and therefore I will spend no more paper or tyme in these matters. We are all well here at Oldham, (blessed be our good God!) I carry the same minde of the place which I have formerly done. Pray, sweet Mother, for us, and I doubt not but that I shall have just cause to prayse God that I went thither. My Maister keeps a thankful re-

^a This is a stroke of Nature. The Christmas Holidays were approaching, and Radcliffe began to feel the *Dulce domum visere*.

membrance of his kind welcome to you, and of all other your courtyesies shewed towards him, and hartily commends himself unto you and to my little sister Besse. He desires to know what he must pay for his blanketts, and he will send you money. Thus with a dutifull remembrance of my humble deuty to you, and my kindest commendations to both my sisters and all our well-willing friends, I take my leave.

From Oldham, this sleepy cold evening, the eighth of December.

Your most loving and most obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I had like to have plaide the Mrs. Hunt hath her hartiest commendations remembred unto you, together with Mr. Francis. I pray you sende me some licorice, for my Maister hath a greate cold.

13.

MOST DEARE AND LOVINGE MOTHER, *Feb. 3d, 1608.*

By Hen. Verie, wherein was sent the price of the licorice which came before, for which my Maister paid me against my will, for I would that he had reckoned with you when you come; wherefore, and because you are behind with him for books, I keepe the money in my purse till you come. I received also cakes of two sorts, whereof I gave my Maister 2 of the greater sort, and my Mistress 2, and kept 2 myselfe; the

rest I dealte among the boys. I received wafers from my sister Elizabeth : and he brought also my shoes, and fortie shillings for my Maister, whereof he said that there was 5 shillings too much, which I keepe till you come ; and twentie shillings for Jerimy. As touching the copyhold land, you know beste what is to be done yourself, and I have put you to great charges otherwise ; but yet if you would pr'cure money to compasse the same, I thinke it best to compounde ; and I hope that when I come to age I shall satisfie you (God willinge), and in the meane time remain very thankfull, and, as for all things, so greatly bound unto you for the same. I have sent you my doublet, which is too . . . both in the arms and in the bodye, and also somewhat too I pray you commende me to my brother and sisters, and all our good friendes. Thus in haste, cravinge your dailye prayers unto God for me, I take my leave, committing you to the Almighty's protection.

Oldham, the 3d Februarie 1608.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

14.

MY MOST LOVINGE MOTHER,

Feb. 28th, 1608.

My humble deuty, as is my duty, most humbly remembered. We are all in good health (praysed be God !) here at Oldham ; and we hope well, and desire more that you

be at Thornhill. I received by George Armitage (as I thinke) 2 books, which came from Wakefield; Smith upon the Lord's Prare; and Daniell's Poems^b; and some; and by Backster an old book (which Mrs. Hunte had sent me before), besides 6 figges. As touchinge payinge for the bookes which were bought at Wakefield, I thoughte it needelesse to send money, whereas I suppose you have paid already. I pray send me Perkins on the Lord's Prayer, for I have some use of it: I bought one at Wakefield the last tyme, and it is of the lesse volume. I thinke my Maister writes concerninge our Oxford journey, which I intreat may be as soon as possibly is convenient. Mrs. Hunt desireth in haste a peck of pease to sow, and a few garden pease, if you be so well furnished. Here is a man with us that would gladly have a loade of wheate, and another of rye, of my brother, and know when they would be ready, and also what he might pay for 2 loads of shillinge, and desires an answere unknown to our Badgers; and he intreats Jo. Hall to buy him 2 pounds of licorice, and send in all possible haste. I pray you send me directions to make curraine drink, for my lips have begun a little again: my legge is in a manner whole. Thus with hartiest commendations to my brother (who I thought to have seen ere this) and sisters, with all the rest, I take my leave.

^b Samuel Daniel, tutor to the famous Anne Clifford. His Poems, now almost forgotten, were then in great repute. It is pleasing to observe the devotional turn of a school-boy's studies, at his leisure hours, in 1608.

At Oldham, this merry^c Tuesday morning, Februarie 28th,
1608. Your most lovinge and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I pray you hasten our Oxforde voyage as much as may be;
but let not my Maister understand of my writing.

15.

GOOD MOTHER,

April 11th, 1608.

WE gute to Oldham very well, (God be thanked!)
and in good tyme, and are all very well. My Maister thanks
you for the money, and sayeth he will have no more till Chris tide.
He goes towards Cambridge on Monday next (God willinge):
but concerninge the cause why he deferred his journey till then
(of the which you bad me certify you), I am altogether ig-
norant or I thinke few know it but he himself; but if I shall
learne it, I shall certify you of the same. Mrs. Hunt hath
reco'mended unto you, and thanketh you for your tokens, and
my sister. Maister is not half well: Small newes else. I
have sent a pair of gloves, which I would have sewed, and
sent again. Thus with my humble duety and commendations
to all our friends, I take my leave.

Oldham, this sleepy evening, April 11th, 1608.—Hast,
hast, hast.

Your loving and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^c I suppose it was "merry Shrovetide," a day marked *meliore lapillo* in
the School-boy's kalendar.

I hard this morning that my Lady Cavendish, going to London about my Lord's sonne^d his marriage, and her sonne Maister Francis^e going to another school, sent word to my Maister to be ready on warning to go with him; and there was word sent to him that he should carrye his sonne to Oxenforde within this month, wherefore he goeth on Monday or Tuesday.

*To his loving Mother Mrs. Margaret Radcliffe,
at Thornhill, these.*

16.

MOST DEARE AND LOVING MOTHER, *April 18, 1608.*

My humble deuty rememberd. These few rude and hasty lines are to let you understand that we are all in good health (God be thanked!) here at Oldham, as we hope and heare you are. I understand by Tho. Dunford that you would have me come whome to Thornhill when my Maister goes to Cambridge, wherein do as you think best, for if I be here I shall write 2 hours in the day, the rest Luke shall teach me, the which he saith to me he will not do, for he saith he must minde his owne study; and if I be at home (soe that I go little abroad), and have my books with me, I can do as much

^d William, afterwards the second Earl of Devonshire of that family. The Lady was Christian daughter of Edward Lord Bruce, of Kinloss.

^e Afterwards Sir Francis Wortley, the issue of her former marriage with Sir Richard Wortley.

good as Luke Mason (for any thing that I can perceive) will do me; but if I be at home, I shall be more unfit to ply my booke here afterward, when I come hither again, for a day or two. If I come not, I want a book and other things, which I will send for by the next bearer. I pray you commend me to all at Lees, and all other our good friends. Thus againe, with my humble duty, I take my leave.

From Oldham, the 18th of Aprill.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

My Maister hath deferred his journey till next week.

17.

GOOD MOTHER,

April 28th, 1608.

WEE are all well (God be thanked!) at Oldham. I received by George Armitage my suit, a piece of beef, which came in very good tyme, and was very thankfully received of us all; and a nutmeg from my sister Nettleton. I have sent my clothes again, for my Maister hath changed his purpose, and it will save a great labor when I come (if I come) whome at Whitsuntide. My Maister goeth not to the funeral^f, because he knoweth not when Mr. Francis goeth to Cambridge, and goeth (if he go at all) on Monday in Witson week to Cambridge. I pray you let the horse stay now. Mrs. Hunt

^f Qu? of whom.

remembers her harty commendations unto you, and my Maister also (whom I should have set before), and thanketh you for his beefe. Thus with my humble duety to you, and commendations to all, desyringe your daile prayers, I take my leave.

From Ouldham, the 28th of Aprill.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

18.

Saturday^s, 1608.

ALTHOUGH I had no greate occasion to write (my deare and lovinge Mother), you having been at Ouldham so lately, yet having so fit opportunity of this bearer I could not but write unto you. We are all well here at Ouldham, (praysed be God!) I hope well of my cosin Robert that he will be a better scholar than his father talked of. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt remember their harty commendations unto you. A load of pease amongst you would be very acceptable unto us: my Maister his man comes to Midle Shillinton on Monday at night, and by him you may send them: he will be at Beatsonnes. I pray you thank my brother for his quills, and send me the book I writ for to Wakefield as sone as may be. I will send Mr. Whitaker^h his . . . and peradventure myne aunt Carre one the next weeke, or the next but one (God willinge).

^s No month or day.

^h Rev. Edward Whitaker, rector of Thornhill.

Thus, with my humble duety unto you, and commendations to my brother and sisters, I take my leave.

From Oldham, this Saturdayⁱ, 1608.

Your most lovinge sonne.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

19.

MY DEARE AND LOVINGE MOTHER,

Nov. 1, 1608.

My humble duety remembred, with most harty thanks for all your goodnesse and kindness ever towards me. We are all in good health (God be praysed therefore!) here at Oldham. My Maister and Mrs. Hunt remember you in all kindness. Thom. Hall was here the other week, and brought us som cakes and rabbits; for the which, as for all other kindness, we most humbly thank you. Tully saith, that he that hath once passed the^k it behoveth him to be very impudent: so I, having beged and obtained many benefitts at your hands, continue in the same boldness asking still. I am altogether almost out of clothes; and as for shoes, I have no paire but one that will not tourne water, and those will not come on well without hurting my feet; wherefore I pray you, according to your accostomed kindness towards me, to provide me such necessarys. My cousin Robert is very well, (God be thanked!) and remembreth his duty most humbly to you and

ⁱ No month or day.

^k ———eum oportet esse animosè et fortiter mendacem.

his grandfather, father and mother, and slut Besse, with commendations to his sweet sisters. Thos. Hall, when he was here, promised me to come on Wednesday, which had bene a very fitt time in many respects; wherefore his not coming doth make us fear either that you have some great business, or else that all be not well with you, (which God, if it be his holy will, forbid!) and so much the rather, because we hard nothing of it since. We had here at Oldham (as I make no doubt but you know) a very doleful joyfull accident—dolefull I say, because we parted with so sweet, loving, learnd, and virtuous a soul as he was, viz. Henry Diot, and by so unfortunate means; joyfull, because such a virtuous soul, who made a most wonderfull ende, is made a Sainte in heaven, delivered from this vale of misery, there singing laud and prayse to the Trenity in fulness of joy. His virtues were rare, his endowments excellent, his life answerable to them both, and his death admirable, to the great amazement of those that heard and saw it, who saide all with one mouth, as Solomon in the commendation of a good woman, “Many daughters have done well, but thou surmountest them all;” so that they had hard many make excellent end, but his was singular. There was a woman by him, who by chance let an othe slip, whereat he rose with such indignation, saying, “Away from me, you swearing woman, I cannot abide to have such about me,” with many other such like: his patience rare; “I thank God,” att every word; “and God hath comforted me, and I am com-

fortable, and he will comforth me, and I thank God:" and his last was this, "God hath strengthened me hitherto, and I hope he will strengthen me unto the ende:" and after they thoughte his sences were gone, my Maister said to him, "Harry, if thou thinke to be saved through Jesus Christe, shake this hande;" and, after he could not speak, he shook it most wonderfully. This is not the tenth parte. Thus, desyringe your dailie prayers, and commendations to all our friends, I take my leave, praying the Lord God to preserve us all in his feare.

Oldham, this first of November, 1608.

Your most loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

20.

LOVING MOTHER, *Oxford, January 19th, 1609.*

My ever-acknowledged and never-performed duety, as I ought, remembred. I have received by Briggs¹, the 12th

¹ The communication between the North of England and the Universities at this time was kept up by carriers, who pursued their tedious but uniform route with whole trains of pack-horses, preceded by a leader with bells. To their care were consigned not only the packages, but frequently the persons of young scholars. It was through their medium also that epistolary correspondence was managed; and as they always visited London, a letter could scarcely be exchanged between Thornhill and Oxford in less time than a month! Whatever mankind may have gained by improved

of this month, your letters, with the cloth and byskitt-bread, which I disposed, I hope, according to your mynde; the two biggest I gave to my tutour and cosin, who, with thanks, kindly remembred himself unto you. We are all well, (God be thanked!) and are glad you are so too. My tutour^m preached at St. Marie's upon Sunday was se'night, being the day after the 12th day, and 7th of this instant, which he performed with great approbation, I might say admiration, of all; and far more applause than some expected, of one who had not been accustomed to come up before so learned an auditors. I may seem partial, but I truly professe I have scarce heard a better sermon, both for matter and manner, from any of the like time that yet have been in Oxford; and I think the most envious can confess no lesse: I am sure I have hard many affirm much more. I want nothing, (I thank God!) My uncle Alexander sent me word, by my cousin Samuel, that he had some money for me, but that he wanted acquittances. He is half and more resolved to come and dwell with us at Oxford, and requested Sam to provide him a chamber. I acknowledge my bounden love to my sister Nettleton, and, thanking her for her token, I kindly commend me, till I shall be better able to requite. Thus, desyringe your daylie prayers, with comrades, mail-coaches, and posting, Humanity will deplore the sad state of toil and suffering to which modern selfishness has reduced the noblest and now most wretched of all quadrupeds.

^m Charles Greenwood.

mendations to my brother, sisters, and cousin Longley, with the rest, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxford, Jan. 19th, 1609.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

My cloake I keep, because I may have occasion p'adventure to use it if I go any whither out of towne; but if you have any use for it I will send, for I can very well do without it. I have sent all my sisters too forgotte, and 3 sermons, Stocks for yourself, Dent for my sister Besse, and Rud for my sister Mary.

To my loving Mother Mrs. Radcliffe, these.

21.

LOVING MOTHER, February 24th, 1609.

I RECEIVED your letters the 19th of this Februarie, concerning my uncle Alexander: twice have I written unto him, and the carriers have returned without answe: since your letters came, I certified him accordingly as you writte, that you had the acquittances, and would safely keepe them for both's discharge; also, how you had sent divers times by men of sufficient creditte, and because you could not send so fitly at the due time, therefore they might peradventure come a day or two too soon: moreover, unlesse he should send it more willinglye hereafter, I let him understand what your purpose was, being constrained so to do. Thus much, as hand-

somely as I could, I told him, earnestly further intreating him either to send the mony or an answeare. What his reason should be that he writes not, I can not imagine, unlesse the letters were lost, for my cosin Samuel told me that one might come to him at any time of the day of late, and that he was grown a very sensibleⁿ man, so that I cannot thinke the carrier took him in the afternoon when he was drunk. The pie came in good tyme, and all the Radcliffes were merry at the eating of it; but none could tell what beast or foule it should bee:—Marrye this—halfe so much money as I imagine it lay in, would do full as well for bands; those that I have, indeed, are not in the facion, but yet I have those that will serve yet; but when I want, I shall surely trouble you. Thus, remembring my bounden duety, with commendations to all at whome, at Lees, or elsewhere, I humbly take my leave.

Oxford, this 24th February, at Univ. Coll. 1609.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

We are all well, (God be thanked!) and all my cousins do kindly remember you, and thank you for the pie.

To his loving Mother Mrs. Radcliffe,

at Thornhill, these.

ⁿ i. e. sober and rational.

MOST LOVING MOTHER,

June 29th, 1609.

IF I could any way requite the least part of your more than motherly affection, testified and sealed up by innumerable kindnesses, certainly I might think myself most happy; but seeing it is neither your desire, nether possible for my so weak spring to countervaile so mighty a river, I must content myself with a thankfull mind, which is all I can doe, hoping you will accept it as a slender satisfaction for all your benefitts. As touching the state of our city, it is not so dangerous as may be the report is with you. The plague hath been suspected to have been in the town I confesse, and in two colleges, yet there died not above 6 in all, as far as I know, if so many in all, whereof 3 was of Brazennose, where Samuel Radcliffe is, two of them in the fields^o, and one in the town: none in the house: one in Allsouls colledge, and the rest in the town:—many were gone which are now returned, and many went rather of a desire to go than feare to stay, for not only the University in general, but every colledge in particular, hath been so looked to, that there hath been little or no danger. The plague began a week or a fortnight

^o The attack must have been unusually violent and sudden, when young men walking in the fields were overtaken by death before they could return to their own apartments in college.

before I came to Oxford, and then stayed till about the first Tuesday after I was come, and began then again : it ended about a fortnight or a week since : it was brought first by a Frenchman. There is no need that you should send a horse ; for, if there should be any danger, I might buy one, and sell him when I come again^p. My cousin Charles had sent me out of the towne a great while ago, if I had desired it. He caused a pomander^q to be made for me by his direction, and another preservative to lay to my harte. Thanke my sister, I pray you, for her Angelica rote, though I had no need of the rote, being provided of a pomander^q before. Thus, with my humble duety unto you, and commendations to my brother Nettleton, sister Mary, and Elizabeth, with the rest of our cousins and friends, I take my leave.

At University College, in Oxford, June 29th, 1609.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^p This was the constant practice of under-graduates going and returning to and from Cambridge till within the last forty years.

^q For an account of this ancient preservative from infection, which probably consisted of strong aromatics, and was enclosed in a perforated case of silver, shaped like an apple or sometimes a pear, see the Life of Alexander Nowell, by my learned friend the present Archdeacon of St. David's, p. 22 ; and Additions, p. 1.

GOOD MOTHER,

July 27th, 1609.

HAVING received your last letters by James Briggs, I was beholden both by my duty and promise to write back by him, in answer to the same. Wherein as touching that you thought I might as well be in the country as troublesome to friends, it is true, yet if there had been any danger I might have incurred before, I could have provided me of an horse, whereas I might easily have gone 3 or 4 miles out of the towne, and then have been tabled with some of my tutor's acquaintance, so that I should have put them to little or no charges. But it is past (God be thanked!) As concerninge my entertainment when I came, as also the kindness shewed to me since I came, it is farr more than I shall ether ever deserve, or be sufficiently thankful for. I am very glad of the good newes I hear; and I pray God it may be no newes that all our friends be in health, and intreat that Dr. Lister may be certifyed of the manner of the working of my sister Elizabeth's phisick, whose continuance in health I rejoyce for, and her recovery, if he know not allredy, in regard of my promise to him. We are all well (God be thanked!) as we hope you remaine. Thus, with my humble duty and commendations to all our good friends, I take my leave.

July 27th, 1609.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I received more than I writ for, 2 table napkins, which, with all other, I lay to that greate heape of never-payd debts. I shall want money, some 3 or 4*l*. about Michalmas, or something before, to pay for my meate and drinke^r.

24.

MOST LOVING MOTHER,

August 24th, 1609.

I RECEIVED by Ja. Briggs your letter the 19th of this instant, wherein I also received a sure of your accustomed never-fading motherlye kindnesse, for the which I always wish that I may never be found in the least thoughte ungrateful, but that I may endeavor as much as in me lyeth that these and all other springs proceeding out of that abundant fountaine of the All-good his infinite goodness may so water my hart with their silver drops, as I may employ all the faculties and powers both of soul and body to shew myself thankfull and obedient; first, to God as the author; next, to you; and then to all my good friends; to whom I am bounden in love and duety, as principal instruments of the same, that so I may labor to fullfill the contents of your goulden much-desired letter. We are all in good health, as we hope you are. Ja. Briggs could give me no money att this time. If I had money and a horse, I might peradventure come down with my tutor when he comes, if he doe come; but it is uncertain when

^r The "Battles" of the preceding Term.—This may serve as a partial scale of academical expences in 1609.

he comes, yet shortly if at all; otherwise, if it were not for his company, I am not very desirous to come. I have a mat under my bed, which was there before. Thus, with my humble duty and communications to my kind friends, I take my leave.

August the 24th, 1609.

Your loving sone,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

25.

GOOD MOTHER,

September 8th, 1609.

WERE it not the respect of my duty (knowing you desire to be certified of me), yet Mr. Hunt his intreaty and desire to have me write, might enforce me to find matter. We are all in good health (thanked be God!) I rest much beholden to Mr. Hunt for his extraordinary kindness shewed unto me here at Oxon. I think you shall have my tutour with you ere long. The sickness is not much dangerous, and I am well heare, where I also desire to be; wherefore as for sending a horse, do as it shall seem good unto you. Thus, craving pardon for this hasty scrawl, and remembring my duty to yourself, with commendations to my good friends, I take my leave.

Oxford, Sept. 8th.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

26. *September 11th, 1609.*
 LOVING MOTHER,

I HAVE received by Mr. Hanson 5.... upon Saturday the 9th. Other things, specified in your letters, I shall receive (as my uncle writeth) by Ja. Briggs at his next coming. Dr. Playfair his Sermon, which you cannot find, is like unto Harvey's Oration, both in thickness and volume; but it may be I have lent it to my uncle Leadbetter. All our friends here at Oxford are in good health (prayed be God!) as also we heare you are: the sickness hath bene in one college, out of which there hath died a Maister of Artes, and a boy; and there was a reporte (how true I know not) that my Lord Delaware his son, student of that house, had the sore running of him in the country: the house hath stood clear about a fortnight, so we hope the best: in the town, the plague is, or hath been, in 5 parishes, and therein in 15 or 16 houses, yet alle in the utmost parts of the town and furthest from us: the certain number of them that have died I can not surely tell; yet there have not died at most, when there died the most, above 4 a week, and commonly but 2. More of the plague when I shall hear more news. Remember me to my brother Nettleton, sisters Mary and Eliz. uncles and aunts, cosins, and all my good friends. Thus, with humble thanks for all your kindnesses, not forgetting my duty, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxford, Sept. 11th, 1609.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I heard since I writte this letter that there are ded in all, since the Acte, about 40 persons.

27.

LOVING MOTHER,

March 16th.

I RECEIVED by Briggs the book sent, but no letters, because, as he told me, of his unexpected hasty return. We are all well (prayed be God!) as we also hope that you are. We have got the last weeke a new Master of our college (Mr. Dr. Bancroft^s, the archbishop of Canterbury his nephew), and he^t that was, is Bp. of Londonne: small newes else amongst us, but that we heare there will be quarter taxes imposed upon the subjects this Parliament. My uncle's acquittance, if you canne safely, I pray you send unto him, for if I send it from hence, it may peradventure be lost by the porters in London, to whom our carriers deliver their letters. Thus, with the remembrance of my humble duety, and commendations to my brother, sisters, and cousin, with the rest, I take my leave.

Oxforde, Univ. Coll. March 16th.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^s Afterwards Bishop of Oxford, and the greatest benefactor to that poor See.

^t Dr. George Abbot, a man whose habits and ideas rendered him much fitter for the Mastership of a college than for the See of Canterbury, to which he was soon after translated.

I lose my handkerchiefs fast: if it shall please you to send me some the next tyme save this that James cometh, I shall rest so much more indebted to your motherly kindness.

28.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 5th, 1610.

WHEN I consider the estate and fortune of many, revolving with myself the sudden motions and changes of things, I find nothing more fraile than this mortal life, nothing more uncertaine; for we are obnoxious to so many causes of miserys and nourishment of grief, that our life (which if it were well lead would be most happy and pleasant) is now become a sorrowfull business, whose beginning is ignorance and oblivion; the progress, labour and sorrow; the end, grief, blindness, and error all^u. What quiet day, what peaceable,

^u It requires no wide acquaintance with human life to discover that every period of it is exposed to cares and sorrows: yet surely these gloomy sentiments would have come with a better grace from the exiled Statesman of sixty, than the young Academic of seventeen. Could his recollection supply him with no entire days of youthful health and glée?—Oldham is not an Eton, yet in his more chearful hours a remembrance of that place must surely have awakened feelings (for they are the feelings of Nature) in unison with those of Mr. Gray:—

“ Ah happy hills, ah pleasing shade,

“ Ah fields belov'd in vain;

“ Where once my careless childhood stray'd,

“ A stranger yet to pain.”

nay, what one day have we ever lead that did not sufficiently afford both trouble to the body and anguish to the mind? — What morning did ever appear unto our eyes so secure and joyfull, that, before night, grief and sorrow did not steal upon us? of which thing I also have had some proof in myself; for, having all things going with me as well as I could either wish or desire—a mother carefull for my good, and tutours kind and diligent; cosins and acquaintance wishing me well both here and at home, and God's blessing divers other ways upon me, in getting me favor in the house, in prospering my studies, &c. &c.—rejoicing also not a little at my cosin Samuel's success, who, now my tutour's office being out, hath got the Proctorship;—being peradventure too much puffed up with this pleasant gale, there comes (as it pleased God) an unexpected storm (though some such thing was ominously presaged in my mind) blustering into myne ears—a terrible death, at one blast—my grandmother^x doth now sleep in the great mother of us all, whose life, answerable to her faith and profession, and death, exceeding her life, may afford both comforth to the course of nature (which should be unnatural if not sorry at

One species of melancholy throws an equal gloom over every period of life; another, augments the sorrows of the present moment, by contrasting them with the exaggerated or imagined happiness of the past.

^x I cannot discover whether the excellent woman, whose death her grandson so deeply deplores, were his mother's mother, or Margaret, daughter of Thomas Savile of Ecclesley, his paternal grandmother.

the departure of such a one), and allso full assurance of her awaking shortly to glory, where her body being partakar of those joys which her soul doth now enjoy, she shall with us and all the whole company of Saints and Angels, have the perfect fruition of the sight of that most glorious God, and sing an eternal Hallelujah unto the Lamb. Her weaknesse of body in her latter days, by reason of old age drawing on, was the strength of her soul; for, certainly, if in the full vigor of the body the mind was able to hold talking with it in that continual combat that in all men is between them, then it must needs be, that the adverse part, to wit, the flesh, being subdued, the spirit should triumph, that so it being loose from those bands wherein it was fettered, it should erect itself into its native place, even to God that gave it, where it shall reign for ever; and the body, falling to the earth from whence it came, even as a ripe apple from the tree, shall there be preserved for God himself, who will unite it again unto the soul at the last with an unseparable union in heaven, to live with him in glory. My uncle Savile^y, howsoever the injurious world may tax of^z yet the poisoned tongue of Envy itself can not but confesse his faithful honesty: he was no hypocrite, neither knew he how to dissemble; and if others that make a better shew of their own virtue peradventure than he did, were but known as well what they were as he was, I believe there

^y This must be meant of his great uncle, Savile of Ecclesley.

^z A word is obliterated.

would have appeared another difference. No man is without his faults, and he that hath fewest is best. His conversation was pleasant and honest; his affection to God-ward (as, out of much private talk I had often with him, he did sufficiently declare) religious, sincere, devout (some little opinions, indeed, he held, yet neither fundamental nor of any great moment); his hart to his friends was true and unfeined; and although the world made not so great account of him, yet I feare it will misse him, and wish hereafter that we had many such: for my part, let me be forgotten when I am gone if I bury him in the pitt of ingratefull oblivion that was so loving to my dead father heretofore, and so kind after to me, unto whome I was not so much bound in alliance and deuty in that he was my uncle, as for those fatherly admonitions which he often gave me in private, written in my heart by his tongue, as with the point of a diamond, never to be wiped of or worn away, which I trust I shall keep in his remembrance to my internal and eternal profit: he did often intreat me when I was at his house, the last time especially, to stay a night with him; and it is some grief unto me that I did not satisfy him in that small desire; but now he is gone; and we have parted with (I am sure not lost but for a time) a man that was, I may confidently affirm, a true Israelite, in whom there was no guile; and blessed be they that be so, as he is now because he was so.— My grandmother's last and dearest token I received, with all things else specified in your former letters, for all which, de-

rived from the never-dried fountain of your kindnesse towards me, I yield the grateful acknowledgements of that debt which I shall never otherwise be able to discharge.

The cloak which my aunt gave me I have no use for; therefore better at home than here. If you come to Oxon. we shall be glad of it, and I am sure my cosins will make you welcome; yet, because you would have your journey private, I will not make it known. Thus have I troubled your patience with a long scrowle, as my affection and business led me, having more to write but for fear of too much tediousness: and I hope also to see you here, and it may be, my uncle Leadbetter, according to his promise, ere long. Thank my aunt Savile, I pray you, for my cloak; and so, returning commendations to all our friends, and remembring my duty to yourself, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. this May 5th.

I received 5 marks from my uncle, and would gladly know whether he have the acquittance or no: if it please you to send the rest of this quarter, it will not come out of season.— Direct it unto my tutour, and send what you think good unto me.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

May 25th.

My humble duty remembred, hoping you still remain, as we do, in good health. I writte the last time for 4 nobles, by Mr. Harrison, since which time it hath cost a mark more, to be satisfied by the Under-Chancellor that I should not compound. There was a gentleman left Oxford this last week, who sold me a base-viol, for which he is to be paid towards 30 shillings within this 3 weeks, the which, as also some books I could not have had soe good and soe reasonable at another time, the desire to buy it at the best hand, as also not to defer the time in learning to play (which doth not cost half so much here as in London), hath made me a great deal more troublesome than I should be, to desire you to send me (besides the other 40 shillings) my grandmother's legacy, which I intend to bestow that way; and therefore I pray you, by this or any trusty carrier, 4*l*.^a and my conti-

^a Parents and guardians of the present day will sigh to see the modesty of these demands, scarcely a tenth part of the quarterly sums now required, from an Oxford scholar, of the same rank. Yet the necessaries of life bore at that time about a fourth of their present price — some were much higher. It follows that there was much more œconomy two centuries ago, and that the general habits of academical life “were lower pitched.” A venerable prelate, within my recollection, whose merits had raised him from the rank of a poor scholar, was wont to say in his latter days, that “the Universities were dying of Gentlemanship.”

nual thankfullness and best obedience shall never be wanting for these and all other your motherly kindnesses. Thus, with commendations to all our friends, desirynge your daily prayers, in great hast I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 25th.

The carrier's unexpected hast made me I could not get myne aunt Wells and my sister's books to send at this time: excuse me, I pray you, unto them.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

30.

LOVING MOTHER,

July 27th.

My humble duety remembred, &c. &c. We are all well and in good health, (praysed be God!) as we hope you remaine. There hath not been amongst us even the suspicion of sickness, as hath been this 3 or 4 years before, but the citty (thanks be to God!) hath stood sound from all infections ever since I was last in the country. The Terme with us is now ended, and will not begin again till after Michaelmas, all which time, seeing it is a vacation wherein public exercises do cease till the Terme doth begin, I should be glad, if so you thought good, to be at home, if I had a horse and money to provide me with of such things as I shall want for my going. My tutour hath left almost 3*l*. but I had bought since a stuff gown for this summer, so that if I had 4*l*. or lesse, to bear my

charges and furnish me with boots and such things, I might do better; though I shall not stand in need to use so much for an horse, I shall think mine to go somewhat hard, having not ridden this good while, yet, for want of another, he will serve. To buy one were the cheapest way, for by that means I needed to pay him nothing for bring him up or carry him down, selling him here when I came again; but unless a man be very circumspect he may well be cozened; and, besides, horses be ill to get now, and will be ill to sell towards winter, for now many be going way and want horses, who then will come again and have them to sell. If it be your mind I should come, you may either send by Briggs when he comes, or else sooner, as you think best, for it may be that he will stay so long till I shall get no company. Thus, with my hartiest commendations to my brother, sisters, with the rest, craving your blessing, I take my leave.

From University College, Oxon. July 17th.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

31.

LOVING MOTHER,

August 3d.

I RECEIVED your letters, but not the shirts mentioned in the same, which I think were left behind. We are all well, (praysed be God !) as we desire of you. My tutour

doth look to Thornhill^b, which, if it be gone, there is no remedy; if not, it will go no farther. I am sorry for my uncle's relapse into his ague: the former time it was only melancholly (as my tutor says) which fuming up from the splene his body, which, I doubt not, he may avoyd by taking lesse pains and being more merry. My sheetes grow thin, and therefore when you can best send another pair I shall send them down. I think I shall want, about Michalmas, some 40 m. besides this which I have, which if you can conveniently, send I pray you at this time. We should be glad to hear some news of Mr. Talbot his health. Remember me, I pray you, to my brother, sisters, with the rest of our good friends. Thus, remembering my humble duety, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Aug. 3d.

Your lovinge sonne,
GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

32.

LOVING MOTHER,

December 18th.

I DESIRE to know, as soon as may be, what your will is concerning my proceeding Bacchelour of Arts, which if I do, I intend to stay one year longer before I go to Inns of Court; if so it be your pleasure, the Degree will cost me

^b Mr. Charles Greenwood.—He succeeded to this valuable Benefice, now vacant by the death of Mr. Edward Whitaker, which he held till the year 1644, when he died very seasonably for an old Loyalist and a true Son of the Church of England.

X pounds at least, which money I intreat you to send me within a fortnight after Christmas, and I shall make you a sufficient account therebye, as of other things, about the middle of February, at which time, if it be your will, I shall come down into Yorkshire, which if I do, other things which I have written for heretofore may stay till that time, save only 7*l.* to discharge the last quarter, which I desire to have as soon as may be; and ten pounds more, shortly after Christmas; for if I proceed not Bacchelour, I will, as my tutour advised me, enter my name in Gray's Inn, and so by Oxford come home, if you consent thereunto: the entrance, together with charges in going up and down, and whilst I stay there, will, as I conjecture, stand me in betwixt 9 and ten pounds, which the sooner it is done is the better for me, what course soever I take, whether to remain at Oxford, or to go immediately thether. Thus, with my humble duety unto you, and commendations to all with you, at Lees, Darton, Linfitte, or elsewhere, desiringe your daily prayers, I take my leave.

Dec. 18th. Univ. Coll. Oxon.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

33.

LOVING MOTHER,

February 1st, 1610.

I HAVE received from you, by James Briggs, 5*l.* in money, 2 linen table-cloths, one green cloth, and a paire

of shoes: the green cloth will not serve, for it reacheth over my table 4 fingers every way, and something more at the sides; but the linen cloths be large enough, and fitte exceeding well. As for money, I shall have no greate nede till towards Easter, unless you could conveniently spare so much as to pay my tutour beforehand, as you were determind, for I think little will be left of this after I have made me a suit of apparel; howsoever, it will be no great matter if that cannot be done without your own hindrance, for I think my tutour doth not look to any. We are all in good health (praysed be God!) as we hope you are. William Noble is well, and in good liking: whatsoever it lieth in my power to do for him shall be done (God willing.) We rejoyce for Sir George Savile's heire^c, desiring he may imitate his father in his virtues and best fortunes. Remember, I pray you, my service and affection to my three kind uncles and aunts, *viz.* my uncle Phillippe and aunt Nel, my uncle and aunt Lockwood, my uncle and aunt Carr; to my brother and sisters, and all at Lees, or elsewhere: I doubt godsonne is scarce come yet over the great pond, yet I may not forget him also. Thus, with my humble duty to yourself, craving your daily prayers for me, I take my leave.

Feb. 1st, 1610. Univ. Coll. Oxon.

Your loving sonne, GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^c Sir William Savile of Thornhill, son and heir of Sir George Savile, Knt. and Mary daughter of George Earl of Shrewsbury.

LOVING MOTHER,

February 3d, 1610.

I COULD not let passe so fitte a bearer (although I had so lately written) who so kindly, I thank him, came here to see me. We are all in good health (praysed be God!) as we hope you are, and desire you may continue. We have no news, but that 2 great Scottish Lords are lately dead—the Earl of Dunbar, and the Lord of Kinglosse. My cousins here do commend themselves in all kindnesse to you, and so doth Dr. Brown to Mr. Waterhouse, whose letters, he sayeth, be somewhat slack in coming. Thus, remembering my humble duty to yourself, with commendations to all other good friends, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Feb. 3d, 1610.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

LOVING MOTHER,

February 19th, 1610.

My humble duety remembred unto you. I could not by any means omitte so fitte oportunity and bearer as Mr. Hanson (who, I thank him, did very kindly see me), although I saw him not till he was ready to depart, and therefore in hast had not much to write. My cosins all, Wm. Noble, and myself, are in good health (praysed be God!) as we hope you

are. I left some books to be brought over by J. Briggs, but I do not well remember what, nor how many there bee; if you have kept them by themselves, or know them, I pray you let them be sent as soon as conveniently may be, otherwise I shall call to mind as many as I can against Briggs his next coming. Remember me, I pray you, to my uncle Philippe and aunt Nel, with the rest of my uncles, aunts, brother, sisters and kinsfolk, acquaintance and friends.—And so, in hast, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Feb. 19th, 1610.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

36.

LOVING MOTHER,

Easter Tuesday, 1610.

WHAT doubtfull and uncertain fears might come into my mind, in regard that I have heard from you, or any at whome, little at the former time, nothing at alle the latter that now Ja. Briggs hath come to Oxford; those all I hope I may put out of my mind (I pray God I may justly), imputing all to the hasty, and on your partes as I may think, unexpected short stay of the carriers in York; and I further trust that if any misfortune hath befallen, my uncle Carre, or some other would have written to me, as they should think good, something, though obscurely of the same. We be all well (praysed be God!) here at Oxford, as we doubt but that you are. Commend me, I pray you, unto my brother, sisters,

cosins, and all the rest, with my duty to my grandmother^d, yourself, my uncle Carr, and all at Darton or elsewhere: and thus, humbly taking my leave, I refer you and us all to the Almighty's protection, whom I pray to shadow us all with his winges, his glory, and the mutual comforth of our friends.

Easter Tuesday, Univ. Coll. Oxon. 1610.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

37.

May 28th, 1610.

I RECEIVED your letters, with the boxe, the 17th of this instant. My uncle, I believe, will think long that he hears nothing of his acquittances, for I deferred to write unto him until I had hard from you: but now I shall certify him how it is; for the money that I writ for, though I think I am rather behind than before with my tutour, yet not much, nevertheless seeing he hath written to you to stay it till Midsummer, belike he is well enough provided himself, wherefore you may do for that as you shall thinke best, and have occasion to use it yourself. I would intreat for the sending of it that it might come at every quarter a little before Midsummer, a little before Michaelmas, and so Christmas, and the Lady-day in Lente,

^d The mention of this person in such a way as to shew that she resided with or near his Mother, renders it highly probable that the lady whose decease he lamented above, was his paternal grandmother.

every time by equal portions, so much as it shall please you to allow yearly, save only an angel of it, or a mark, which you may send to me at diverse times, for if it come together it will scarce hold out, which I will bestow about rectifying my chambers and my study a little, and game at bowles now and then, or prickes, when I have got bow and arrows, for our Master loves shooting well^e, and we must follow. Thus, with my humble duety to you, and commendations to my sister Bessy, with the rest, I take my leave.

From Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 28th, 1610.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

There is a book of mine, I think, called *B. Hecken Gymnasium sive usus logices*, which, if it be there when my uncle Carre comes to Thornhill, I would gladly have sent.

38.

GOOD MOTHER,

June 24th, 1610.

I RECEIVED the money sent by James Briggs; and for the book I sent for, I was in doubt whether it was there or no. I heare neither good nor bad from my uncle, and I think he will be better pleased to have the acquittances safe with you, than that they should be in danger to be lost, as they may be

^e It appears that in 1610 the Master of a College did not think it indecorous to amuse himself with Archery.

if I send them, for our carriers do deliver their letters to the porters in London, who, if they should not chance to find him the first time, will hardly go any more; wherefore I think it better that they should stay awhile (so long as there is no harm to either) than come here away. My tutour (so far as I hear) doth go to Somersetshire this summer to Mr. Paulet, who hath sent for him already twice, and therefore I think he goeth not into Yorks this year: peradventure Mr. Proctour will goe, but if he do, he will not stay above a fortnight out of Oxford.— And thus, with commendations to all our good friends at whome, Lees or elsewhere, craving your blessing, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. June 24th, 1610.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

My tutour doth commend himself unto you, and would have written, but that the hastiness of the carrier did prevent him, and therefore intreateth you to have him excused. I heard by him that he was appointed by my Lord Archbishop of Canterbury his Grace to be one of the 12 that must revise the Fathers^f; and therefore he saith if that business go forward, he is uncertaine whether he can go in to Yorkshire this year or no.

^f This alludes to a noble plan, formed by Archbishop Abbot, for a general collation of the printed editions of the Fathers with MSS., principally in order to detect the insertions of Popish Editors.

LOVING MOTHER,

December 3d, 1610.

ALTHOUGH I know that my uncle will particularly relate unto you of the good success of our prosperous voyage, yet I thought a part of my duety not unacceptable to you, if in general I should certify you thereof. Our journey, considering the time of year, was pleasant and fair. We came to Oxford in good health (God be prayed!) and so remaine still. My cousins are all well, and, with thanks for your tokens, commend themselves unto you. I gave my cozin Jonathan a bended shilling from you. The Reverend Archbishop is gone, but who succeeds him in the bishoprick I know not, neither do I certainly hear who stands for it. The Lord High Chancellor of England is chosen Chancellor of Oxford. Thus, with my most thankful commendations to Mr. Waterhousse and my aunt Nell, together with my brother and sisters, not forgetting Thed (whose mittens, if they be to be had, shall come by Briggs), I take my leave.

Oxford, Univ. Coll. Dec. 3d, 1610.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

LOVING MOTHER,

December 14th, 1610.

WE are all here in good health, as we hope you be. The carrier's long stay here will be means, I fear, to make him stay longer ere he come up again; howsoever, send the money to my tutor by him, I pray you, as soon as he comes. If you send 2 table-cloths by him, send also, I pray you, if it may be done conveniently, a green cloth with them, for I cannot so well provide me here as I had thought that I might. Commend me, I pray you, to my brother and sisters, the little ones at Lees, and the rest of our good friends. I think by this time you heare more newes out of the North than we do out of the South. The University I find very much reformed, about drinking, long hair^s, and other vices, especially our house, out of which 2 have lately gone, to avoid expulsion for drunkenness. Thus, remembring my humble duety, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Dec. 14th, 1610.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^s This is a trait of Puritanism from which I sincerely wish my Author had been free. To confound great sins with trivial indecorums, has marked the fanatical spirit from the days of Archbishop Anselm to the Roundheads. It was not long before Radcliffe was taught by experience to understand this spirit better.

Mem. to send to Oxford, by Briggs, *vj* *l.* to his tutour, and a green table-cloth of a yard and half a quarter, and 2 linnen clothes; and if the green cloth be too little, make a paire of warm stockings of it^h, or send it again, and he shall have another; and send Sir George's Letters.

41.

LOVING MOTHER,

January 11th, 1611.

I RECEIVED by the carrier this last retourne 2 letters, 2 bands, a pair of cufts, seventeen pounds from you, and 5 from my aunt at Hollinedge, and 5 for William Noble, all which, together with your kind admonitions, do manifestly declare the careful desires of a kind and loving mother, a recompence whereof must be my endeavors to practice those things which you desire; that is it which chiefly you require at my hands; too, too ingratefull should I bee if I do not labor to perform it: for my Degree, I think I shall not take it, because if I can any way spend 4*l.* by the year for so much: my Bacchelourship will stand me in 4*l.* (a rate too high, unless I meant to stay longer in Oxford); my tutour thought otherwise; but since, I have found it so, for the like

^h The economy of converting a green table cloth into a pair of stockings is amusing enough.

case hath been lately in suit; wherefore my purpose is (hoping it will not seme unfitte to you) shortly to go to London, there to enter my name; afterward, I desire I may meet Ja. Briggs here at Oxford, at his next retourne, with a horse and 3*l*. in money, whereof 2 I shall use for Mr. Waterhouse, the rest to bear my charges down, if it be your will that I should come down, to stay there some part of this Lente. I am most willing to see Yorkshire att this tyme, rather than after Midsummer, partly for my health, partly for other causes, which I can best impart when I come there. Remember me, I pray you, to our friends Mr. Wat, Mrs. Walesh, my brother, sisters, uncles, aunts, with all the rest, thanking myne aunt Savile and myne naunt Bothroid for their tokens. Thus, not forgetting my humble duety, craving your dailye prayers, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Jan. 11th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

42.

LOVING MOTHER,

Feb. 13th, 1611.

I RECEIVED by Wm. Walker, the carrier, your letters and 3*l*. I am glad the horse was deferred till the next tyme, by which means I shall get so good company as Mr. Watkins. Since our old trusty carrier, James Briggs, is dead, I think it best to send your horses by some other than the

carrier, as soon as you shall see the ways somewhat faire, and the sooner the better. The Degree of Bacchelour is a thing not necessary, and therefore (according to the counsel of my friends) I am resolved to lette that passe. I was admitted in Grayes Inn at the beginning of this month; and now I am undetermined altogether what course to take; desirous upon reasonable terms to follow the advice of my friends, whose wisdom and experience therein knows better what is fittest for me in that case than myself—but of these things further when I come to you. Remember me, I pray you, to Mr. Waterhouse and his wife, together with my brother, sisters, and the reste our good friends. Thus, desiringe your dailye prayers, and hoping you are all in good health, as we are, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Feb. 13th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

43.

GOOD MOTHER,

April 4th, 1611.

I RECEIVED your letters the 11 of last month, together with 5*l.* in money, and 7 bookes; there was an 8, viz. the Christian's Mourning Garment, which came with them by chance: the 5*l.* which you sent before, the carrier had forgotte, neither did I know of it till this time; but now I have received it. You may send more money when it shall please you,

and you can best spare it. I am sorry for the losse that did accrue to you and my brother Nettleton by the last floode, but especially for my uncle Philippe's and my sister's ague.— Robarte Hanson is reasonable well, yet hath some aguish humors on him, otherwise his sences be very well and perfect. We are all here in good health, (praysed be God!) and my cosins commend themselves unto you. Samuel is now out of his Proctourshippe. I shall send you the next tyme the sheets that you bad me, for my chamber-fellowe hath now of his owne. Thus, desyringe your dailye prayers unto God for me, I take my leave.

University Colledge, Oxford, this April 4th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I pray you tell Mr. Waterhouse that his books, God willing, shall come at the next tyme.

44.

GOOD MOTHER,

April 29th, 1611.

I AM glad to heare of the good recovery of Mr. Waterhouse and myne aunt Nel: I wish the like newes of my brother and sister at Lees. I pray God make my sister a glad mother, and that her former sickness do not weaken her body too much at her child-birth. I have sent by Ja. Briggs a paire of sheetes, with a shirt, for which I pray send me another when you can most conveniently: you may send some money,

when you can best spare it. Michael Thomas is now Bacche-
lour of Artes, who determining to come to Wakefield, I desired
him to go by Thornhill, rather in regarde of his good deserts
heretofore. Commende me, I pray you, to all our friends, espe-
cially to my sister Nettleton, with whom I hope I shall have
merry meeting. Thus desiringe your daile prayers, I take
my leave.

April 29th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

As I was sealing my letter, my Tutor gave me the note
herein inclosed, of such money as he had laide out for me,
which was all (within one groate) that he had of mine, saving
that of the last 5 l . which was sent, there remained 8 s . which
I had. It is his mind now that I should keepe my money
myself, that I may learn to play the good husband before I
goe to Inns of Court; wherefore, if you can well spare it, I
pray you send me some beforehand, because I know not what
may fall out, or what I shall want.

45.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 6th, 1611.

RATHER than I would omitte any occasion of
testifying my bounden duety, I made bould at this time to
trouble my tutour with my letters, unto whom (as I can nei-
ther forgette nor omitte) I am and ever have been so much
indebted, as I should neither desire nor have any more favor

at his hands than hath by him been already shewed me. I wish he may find you all in as good health as he left us, and especially my sister safely delivered from the great danger of child-birth; which newes I should be very glad to heare. I am not determind to see Yorkshire this summer, for it will be a great loss of time, and to no great purpose; for you may be as fully satisfied in any thing you desire to know, as if I were there present. Nevertheless I submit myself both herein and in all other things to your will; wherby I know you wish that which is best for me. Thus remembring my humble duety to you, with commendations to all my good friends, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 6th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

46.

GOOD MOTHER,

May 9th, 1611.

I RECEIVED by the carrier xls. for myself and vs. to Wm. Noble. I was very loth to have sent for any, had not necessity constrained me: for, as may appear by the last Bill, all the money which I received before was bestowed otherwise than I had determind; for, whereas I had intended to have made some apparel, I had not then enough money besides that which I was to use, contrary to my expectation, in other things; and therefore deferred it till now. Of this which

you have sent 26s. is due to Mr. Radcliffe for Mr. Waterhouse's books; so that there remaines to me but 14s. towards making a suit, besides some other odd things. I pray you therefore, if it may be done conveniently, send me some more as you think good, yet no more than you can well spare: necessity at this time makes me a great deal more troublesome than otherwise I would be, because I know it is not your mind that I should want any thing; seeing that I hope by my behaviour to perform the condition. We are all well (praysed be God!) as we hope of the most of you, and desire of all. I would have sent you word of my tutour's coming, but I had not a week before. Thus with my humble duety and commendations to all our friends, in hast I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 9th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

47.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 16th, 1611.

I HAVE been beholden to Mr. Hunt, both at other times and also now. When he was last at Oxford he brought me news of my sister's delivery, whom I pray God make strong, and a glad mother. I am glad to hear of little Robin Nettleton his well doing, who, as well as in the right of his father and mother as of himself, doth truly challenge whatso-

ever I can do for his good, which shall, God willing, be performed to my power. We are all heare in good health (praysed be God!) as we hope of you. Mr. Radcliffe doth read to me (in my tutour's absence, according to his appointment before he went), whose pains now, and kindnesse heretofore, hath infinitely bound me in his debt. Thus with my humble duety remembred, desiring your daile prayers, not forgetting all our good friends, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 16th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

48.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 30th, 1611.

I RECEIVED by Ja. Briggs 4*l.* 10*s.* 6*d.* whereof xxx*s.* 6*d.* was due unto me for Mr. Waterhouse's books, which I bought for him, 9 of them off Mr. Radcliffe for 26*s.* and the tenth cost me 4*s.* 6*d.* which I paide in the town; so that all did amount to xxx*s.* 6*d.* as appeared by the Bill I sent him. I am afraid I was too troublesome the last tyme, wherefore I must so much the more labour to be more worthy and thankful of that your exceeding love and care over me. Mr. Hunt told me that my sister was delivered before Whitsunday, and that Robin was then gone to the christening. Howbeit it is otherwise: I am glad she hath got past her ague, and is in good health, desiringe God to send her now at the last safe

delivery. Wm. Noble is well liked where he is; and I make no doubt but that in short tyme he will both prove a good scholar, and come to preferment. We are all in good health (praysed be God!) as we hope of you all. Remember me I pray you to Mr. Waterhouse, my aunt Nell, Mrs. Longley, together with my brother (who I hope is past the worst), my sisters, with all the rest. If you send my shirts I pray you let them be strong, or else they will do but little service; for my landresses beatⁱ out all in the washing. I shall want some money to pay my battels about Midsummer, or shortly after. Thus remembring my bounden duety, and desiring your daily prayers, I take my leave.

University Colledge, Oxford, May 30th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

49.

LOVING MOTHER,

June 18th, 1611.

SIR Richard Beaumontes and Mr. Ramsden's vouchsafing to see me, might well challenge a letter, which Mr. Ramsden's willingness makes me the more bound to trouble both him and you withall. We are all well (praysed be God!) as we also hope and desire of you. Mr. Jonas Radcliffe doth remember himself unto you, unto whom, as before, so especially since my Tutour's depart, I have been very much

ⁱ By "batting," an ancient method of "rending apparel out" in washing.

beholden. Our quarter will end, as I take it, within a week or a fortnight; soon after which time I intreat you to send me some money to defray my battailes, besides which I want nothing: the more I must be thankfull and dutifull unto you. Remember my duty I pray you to my Tutour (if he is in Yorkshire), whome now I hope we shall see ere long. Thus with my humble duety unto you, not forgetting all my good friends at Thornhill, Lees, or elsewhere, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. June 18th, 1611.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

50.

LOVING MOTHER,

October 10th, 1611.

I RECEIVED by Ja. Briggs the 2 of this instant your letters, 2 shirts, and 3*l*. 5*s*. in money. Wm. Noble returns his best thanks for this and other your kindnesses: he is in good health, and so are we all, as we hope you remayne; so much the rather, because your good company is returned. Remember I pray you my best commendations to my uncle Philippe and aunt Nel, with my thanks for their former love; as allso to Mrs. Waterhouse of Shibden Hall^k, whose token,

^k Near Halifax: probably Jane daughter and heiress of Tho. Bosseville, of Conisborough, widow of John Waterhouse, and mother of Philip Waterhouse, A. M. then Fellow of University College. See Watson's History of Halifax, p. 252.

with my sister Elizabeth's, I lately received by a Bacchellour of Artes of Magdalen Hall, newly come out of our country. Your commendations to my Tutour I could not deliver, for he hath been a month or upwards in Northumberland. I have heare sent 5 paires of Oxford gloves for yourself, Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse, and my two sisters: I owe my brother a paire, till I can fitte him better for his trade. Mr. Calvin is in English, upon Esay, which I will send, as soon as I can conveniently get it. I have sent a shirt. Thus remembring my humble duety and commendations to my uncle Carr (for whose desired recovery I do rejoyce with all the rest at Darton or elsewhere), I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. October 10th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

51.

LOVING MOTHER, *November 11th, 1611.*

I RECEIVED your letters the last of October, together with 2 pieces of beef from you, a half crowne from my aunt Nel, and a crowne from my sister; for all these, together with the rest, I render only thanks as my best recompence. The token which I received before was a shilling; but from my aunt Nel there came unto my hands never a 6d. We are all well (praysed be God!) as we hope you remaine. I have been troubled a little with a tooth, but now I thank God

I have ease of it again. My Tutour is looked for every day; but of his coming you will know before us. I want some bandes, the facion you may see in my Tutour's, if he come (as I think he will) by Thornhill; if not I shall sende one downe the next tyme. Silver will grow scant with us towards Christmas, about which tyme, as also shortly after, I shall be somewhat chargeable to you, if it be your will that I should go out Bacchelour, as my Tutour would have me. Excuse me I pray you to my aunt Nel and uncle Philippe, that I did not write for the coulte which my sister Elizabeth writes of. I would have done what you think most fitting, which you know better than I. Thus with my best commendations to all our good friends, remembring my humble duety to yourself, and desiring your prayers, I take my leave.

Oxford, Univ. Coll. Nov. 11th, 1611.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I pray you certify me whether I can spend 4*l*. by the year or no at this instant of myne owne lands; for I am to take an othe thereof.

52.

LOVING MOTHER,

December 9th, 1611.

I CANNOT as yet heare of a comment upon Zachary in English: I doubt there be any hardly extant. My Tutour commends himself unto you all: he is gone from us;

but I think hardly out of England yet. Since his depart I am under Mr. Jonas Radcliffe's tuition. I pray you send me as soon as conveniently may be 6 or 7*l.* to pay my battels, and make me a suit of apparel¹. Thus desiring your dayly prayers and blessing, I take my leave, with commendations to all with you at Lees, Darton, or elsewhere.

December 9th.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

The book which Mr. Waterhouse sent for by my Tutor shall come (God willing) after Christmas.

53.

HONOURED MOTHER,

Jan. 19th, 1612.

I HAVE received the band, cuffs, and handkerchiefe; the handkerchiefe I delivered to Mrs. Longley, who returneth many thanks to you. She intreated me to certifie to you that her sonnes, and your godsonnes childe is a girle, called Elizabeth. The bande you sente doth serve reasonably well, but it will not stande round ynough, and it is too much sloped at the endes: if I had cloth I could gette them well made by my uncle Richard's daughter, Mr. Jordan's wife, who sets bandes here in London. I shall wante about 4*l.* aboute a moneth hence, and some more, but I know not when,

¹ For the latter of which purposes alone that sum would not suffice at present.

nor how much, which the gentlemen of the Innes of Court do contribute towards the maskes to be presented att the greate marriage at Shrovetide^m, the one by Graie's Inne and the Inner Temple, and the other by the Middle Temple and Lincolnes Inne. We have not hearde of my cosin Charlesⁿ lately. I am glad the worlde thinkes so hardlye of him; I presume he will be liked so much the better when he is seene to discharge his duety so faithfully and sufficiently, as I make no question, by God's grace, he will do. I cannot get Cowper^o upon Genesis; they say there is no suche booke: upon the Romans you have him. Mrs. Longley desires to know if my sister Nettleton received some dates and Dionis's silke which she sente. There was thinges sente to Halyfax which was never delivered.

Jan. 19th. 1612.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

54.

HONOURED MOTHER,

Feb. 1st, 1612.

I HAVE taken uppe xxxxs. of James Singleton, which, or the greater parte whereof, is to be paide towarde the greate maske at the marriage at Shrovetide. It is a duty for

^m That of the Princess Elizabeth with the Palatine; a "greate marriage" indeed in its consequences with respect to England. The Inns of Court were always magnificent on these occasions.

ⁿ Greenwood.

^o Probably the learned and pious William Cowper, Bishop of Galloway, who died A. D. 1619.

the honour of our Inne, and unto which I could not refuse to contribute with any creditte. I have moved my uncle as touchinge an acquittance for the xl. which my father stoode bounde for unto olde Mr. Vernon^p; and he said I should have it for a flitch of bacon^q at Shrovetide, biddinge me write unto you in that behalfe. We heare not yet out of France, but looke for them every day; for we here that Sir Thomas Wentworth was sente for a good while since^r.

Graie's Inne, Feb. 1st, 1612. I **GEORGE RADCLIFFE.**

I pray you sende us some oat cakes.

55.

HONOURED MOTHER,

Feb. 4th, 1612.

I RECEIVED all thinges specified in your letter by Travers. The handkerchiefs I delivered to Mrs. Longley ac-

^p See the Pedigree of Radcliffe.

^q Alexander Radcliffe's haggling for a flitch of bacon before he would consent to sign an acquittance, in which he appears to have had no interest, is both comic and contemptible. But his meanness seems to have kept pace with his intemperance.

^r In consequence of the death of his father Sir Wm. Wentworth. By this circumstance the son's travels were rendered very short, for he was at London with his Father in the June preceding. See History of Craven, p. 253. See also Lord Strafford's Papers, Letter I. The return of Wentworth opened a new and important scene in the life of George Radcliffe, who was soon after received into the entire confidence of that great man; a confidence which he never betrayed or abused.

cordingelye as a token from you. Onely for my sister Nettleton's token, which you write was a crowne of gould, I received 5 shillings in money by Gilbert Claye's man. I also writte that Cowper (as it was tould me) hath not written upon Genesis; upon the Romans he is to be had: other particulars I doe not remember. I sent also another letter the last weeke, but thatte I think you have, or will receive. I have taken up in all 8 pounce of William Pollarde's man; I shall neede 4^l. more about Shrovetide. I make no question but that my cousin Greenwood^s (by God's assistance) will discharge his place

^s It appears that Mr. Greenwood had nearly been supplanted in his pursuit of the Rectory of Thornhill by some simoniacal practices of a Dr. Brooke, aided, according to the usual alliance of malice and fraud, by some reports of his insufficiency. I suppose this person to have been John Brooke, D. D. Fellow of University College, Oxford, Rector of Emley, Silkston, and Bainton, who died A. D. 1616, and is buried in York Cathedral. (See Drake's Ebor. p. 509.) To George Radcliffe's testimony in behalf of his Tutor may be added a more weighty authority, that of Lord Strafford himself, who, writing to his nephew Sir Wm. Savile, speaks of Charles Greenwood in these terms: "Consult Mr. Greenwood, who hath seen much, is well able to judge, and certainly most faithful to you. He was the man your father loved and trusted above all men, and did as faithfully discharge the trust reposed in him, as ever in my time I knew any man do for his dead friend. His advice will be always upright, and you may safely pour your secrets into him; which by that time you have conversed a little more abroad in the world, you will find to be the greatest and noblest treasure this world can make any man owner of; and I protest to God were I in your place, I would think him the greatest and best riches I did or could possess." 1633. Strafford's Letters, p. 170.

with a good conscience, and beyonde the generall expectacioune. He preached in Oxon. when it came to his course for the most parte, except some tymes occasions, and a modest undervaluinge of his owne abilities (which indeede were verye sufficient), did make him more unwillinge to shew himselfe in public. In Univ. Coll. he performed the Catechizinge Lecteur (I know not certainly how manye yeares) very learnedly and duely; I dare bouldly say that in the generall judgements of all Oxon. or any man that impartially knows both, Mr. Grenewoode's sufficiencie in all things equall, in most farre superioure, to Dr. Brookes, who I feare doth most oppose him in this businesse. Large Proferrers methinkes should remember Simon Magus's doome, thou and thy money perish together. If neither com'on charity nor good example for others did move him, at leaste he mighte consider what wronge he offers to Sir George, in sollicitinge him to an acte so dishonourable; whereas he hath both sould the advowson to his sonne, and sealed it to Charles. Excuse me I pray you to myne aunt Nell for not sendinge her spectacles at this tyme; the carrier retourneth so quickly I have not tyme.

Graie's Inne, Feb. 4th, 1612.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

56.

LOVING MOTHER,

Feb. 20th, 1612.

I HAVE received letters by Mr. Jeremy Whiteakrest^t, whereby I understand that you are in good health. My Tutour is safely arrived out of France (praysed be God!) and is goinge towardes you as soone as some importaunte businesse wil give him leave. Remember my love to all our good friendes with you, or at Lees, or elsewhere. My uncle comendeth himself unto you, and asketh oft for a fitch of bacon. I have sente myne aunte her spectacles now att last, but I doubt now they will fitt her sight; but if I knew wherein they were amisse, the next tyme shall be amended.

Feb. 20th, 1612.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

57.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 18th, 1612.

I ARRIVED safe and sound (praysed be God!) att Oxon. the Monday after I set out. Our company (especially those with whom I came within 12 miles of Oxon.) was far more civil than I expected. We have been all well here ever

^t Born at Wakefield, bred in Sidney College Cambridge, and long after this time a Member of the Assembly of Divines. He was Minister of Bermondsey, where he died, and was buried A. D. 1654. Fuller's Worthies, in Yorkshire.

since, as we hope of you. My cosins thank you for your tokens. Concerning my Bacchelorship, I shall better testify you by the carriers. I shall want 4 nobles more at least, and which I never thought of; for I both forgot one angel to be disbursed about my Bacchelorship, and my battles exceeded xxs.: the sum which I ymaged, for the quarter was almost ended when I came away. If Mr. Harrison come with this letter himself, as he promised me, I make no doubt you will use him kindly for my sake. Thus remembring my duty unto you, with commendations and thanks to Mr. Waterhouse and myne aunt Nell, godsonne, my brother, sister Mary, and Elizabeth (whom I could heartily wish to see), with all the rest, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

58.

LOVING MOTHER,

May 28th, 1612.

I HAVE got my degree of Bacchelour upon Monday last, being the 25th of this instant, in which business I am ever to acknowledge our Vice-Chancellour's^u kindnesse. It

^u Dr. Thomas Singleton, Principal of Brazennose. It is a very singular circumstance, that at a time when the distinction between ranks and orders in academical life, as well as in general society, was much more punctiliously

pleased him to send a beedle to me (not many hours before I was to make a dinner to the College), insinuating as much in effect, as that I should invite him to dinner, which sudden news put me both to some trouble and expence of more crownes, having provided no such cheer as I thought sufficient for so great a company. I may be deemed too troublesome, who find nothing to write unto you but for money; howsoever necessity upon this occasion constraineth me, having writ the last times for no more than would just suffice; otherwise I should have taken some other course, knowing what use of money you have towards this Whitsuntide. I shall also want something at Midsummer, but how much yet I cannot tell. Thus with love to all, I take my leave, desiring your dayly prayers.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. May 28th, 1612.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

59.

MOTHER,

June 17th, 1612.

My duty remembred, &c. I have received by James More the some of 5 pounds. I am intending to sell observed than at present, the Vice-Chancellor should intimate an expectation by one of his beedles, that a commencing Bachelor of Arts would invite him to dinner. At present the Vice-Chancellor who had any acquaintance or family connexion with a young man of character who had just taken his first degree, might invite him to *his* table: but even this would be thought a condescension.

my horse, otherwise I should trouble you for some more money. I am sick of an ague, and now being in my fitt am not so well able to write to you as I would: therefore till God may better enable me, that I may be able to write myself more at large, as occasion shall require, I rest, desiring your blessing; also that you will remember my commendations to Mr. and Mrs. Waterhouse, to my brother and sisters. Farewell.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. June 17th, 1612.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I do not doubt but the extremitie of the fitt is over, for though I be in my fitt that I cannot conveniently write myself, yet I feel it so mild and gentille, that I almost assure myself to have overcome it.

60.

tion, that you or any other frende should have come thither had been much trouble and expence to small purpose: I have had company still of the best sorte. Mr. Brookes came often to me, furthering Mr. Hill with good advice. My cousin Jonas was very carefull over me, and furnished me with what money I wanted. I want a paire of sheets or two, for lying by myself I am constrained to borrow: also I wante a cappe for the

day. Thus with commendations to all our good friends, I take my leave, desiring your dayly prayers.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. July 18th, 1612.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

I received by Mr. Harrison 2s. from you, and dolard from my brother Nettleton and my uncle Carr. Pardon I pray you my unthankfull forgetfullnesse in omitting them in my last letter.

61.

LOVING MOTHER,

November 21st, 1612.

I HAVE received by Thom. Walker 7*l*. and 10 shillings, for Wm. Noble also the box, my cloake, and a pair of sheets therein. There remaineth to be sent another paire of sheets (for those I had before are now quite worn out), and a paire of black stockings, my bootes, and (if it please you) the gowne cloth that you gave me. My cousin Thomas also would have his cloth sent up to Oxforde. I fear I shall be troublesome for some more money against Christmas, for when I have discharged all things here, and provided such things as are necessary at London, the remainder of this money will not be much for my retourne to Oxford. I shall take that course which shall be most expedient, with a respect to myne own good and your charges. Thus with my humble

uety to you, and commendations to all our friends, I take my leave.

Univ. Coll. Oxon. Nov. 21st, 1612.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Commend me, I pray you, to William Crossley and his wife, with many thanks for her token ^x.

62.

LOVING MOTHER,

November 30th, 1612.

My humble duty remembered, hopinge you are in good health, as we have been. I have been much beholden to my cosin Greenwood since I came hither, who hath beene very willinge to doe me what kindnesse was possible. If you write or sende any thinge, directe it to his lodgings in Graie's Inne Lane ende in Holbourne, where I lie within 2 houses, at an honest ould widdowe's house, till such time as I get a chamber in the Inne. Sende me uppe I pray you my black cloake which my uncle Savile gave me; for the Prince's ^y untimely death hath brought that colour into fashion. If the

^x The number of tokens or presents which he receives from his friends in the country is very remarkable. An angel, a *dolard*, or even a crooked shilling, would probably be more acceptable to a young academic, than all the kind expressions which he would now receive in a post letter from his relations.

^y Henry Prince of Wales.

gowne cloath be not cominge already, it may stay awhile, for I shall not have so present use of it as I thought I should have.

Nov. 30th, 1612.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

63.

LOVING MOTHER,

Jan. 5th, 1613.

I RECEIVED your letter, and —— for Sir George. I doe so much hate ungratitude, especially to one so well deserving, that I will ever respecte his honour above myne owne; so that if any gentleman of like place (as you write you are tould) doe attende him at the Assises^z, he shall not finde me refractory, nor slow to acknowledge any interest that he may claime in mee. I doe desire that my gray horse may be sould, for I stand in more neede of money than I shall doe of the horse, if the colt prove so well; also Harry Allen may stay the buying of any other. Your hatte shall be provided with convenient speede. My cosin, our parson, will be at Thornhill presentlye after he hath given uppe his place, which will

^z The sheriffs of this great county were often attended to the Assizes by 300 horse; all their relatives and dependants making a point of joining the procession, by which they held, that they honoured themselves as well as their patron. In the frugal and *unshewy* period of the Commonwealth, I find from the original papers of a Puritan Sheriff of Lancashire, that his train consisted of 140 horse.

be in Marche ; you shall heare from him againe the next weeke.
Thus with my humble duety remembered, I take my leave.

Jan. 5th, 1613.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

64.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

Jan. 7th.

I HAVE received by Wm. Hall a boxe of gingerbread, 26s. from you, and 15s. 6d. from Mr. Waterhouse ; I am sorry that he sente any, I am so much in his debt already. My sister, if it please her, shall have a newe hatte ; that she hath will serve for Robin Nettleton^a. We desire to knowe whether youre hatte shoulde bee of the oulde facion, or somewhat broder then is ordinary nowadayes : whether faced with velvet or taffata. I wrote a lettre, which should be at Thornhill about New Years Day. I pray you sende me Sir George's resoelution. Wm. Hall would have given me 12s. more, but I refused them because no mention was made of them in the lettre.

Jan. 7th.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^a The high-crowned felt hat of this period, which seems to be here intended, is seen in portraits on male and female heads indifferently.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

March 26th, 1613.

I RECEIVED your letters, with a flitch of bacon^b, which I have delivered to myne uncle, who is willinge to give me any acquittance or release of that bill, or any thinge else that was betwene ould Mr. Vernon and my father. We are all well (praysed be God!) as we hope of you. Mrs. Longley comendes her to you and my sisters, desiringe you to sende for a chest or coffer of cut work^c to Hudersfielde, which she gives to my sister Elizabethe: there is a faire bedde there also, which she determineth to sell, and would have you to have the first nay of it. My uncle sendeth you many comendations, with thankes for his bacon. I kept Mr. Waterhouse's bookes till I heare from him concerninge Camden^d, that I may sende them altogether.

I toke uppe 7*l.* of James Singleton, and I shall neede 40*s.* or 3*l.* more about the middle of Aprile.

March 26th, 1613.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

^b This momentous flitch, the object of so many applications, at length arrived, and the release followed of course.

^c Rich carved and massy bedsteads were the fashionable furniture of James the First's reign. See an account of a magnificent old bed belonging to the Radcliffes of Todmorden, and dated 1615, in the History of Whalley, p. 281.

^d I suppose the folio edition of the Britannia, published in 1607.

66.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

April 2d.

I HAVE sente your hatte now at the laste ; it is as neere the facion you desired as we could gette anye : if the brimmes be too broad, as I thinke they are, they may be cutte. Mrs. Longley sent my sisters comfits^e before by a man of Almondbury, because she thoughte there might be some haste of them : she sente also unto my sister for a token a pounce of almonde comfits, with many harty commendations unto yourself, and her with the reste. I hearde not before now what occasion (extraordinary) my sister Nettleton had to buy swete meates : I pray God make her a glad mother. My uncle asketh me often for a flitch of bacon^f. My Tutour is, I thinke, at Thornhill by this time, to whom, with the rest of my frendes, pray 'member me.

I toke up of Thos. Oldham 15*l*. for my quarterage.

April 2d.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

67.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

April 17, 1613.

I RECEIVED your letters, which I well may place amongst the best and worst that have usually come unto me.

^e They seem to have been indispensable at a christening.

^f Probably a slip of the memory. See the last letter.

I have not as yette seene Mrs. Longley since your letter came to my handes ; but I shall ere long pay her with thankes. I have lien in the Inne this moneth or 6 weekes, and shall doe till towardes Witsontyde, in Mr. Theophilus Ashton's chamber, now in his absence^g. My uncle Robert married his aunt, and my cosin Savile Ratcliffe his sister ; in the meane tyme I hope I shall provide myselfe of one, for lyinge abroade is both chargeable and inconvenient. If you can provide me 20 pounce I can buy a fair chamber therewith, together with what my good friendes will lend me. For my other allowance it were as good for me to take it quarterly onelye : my desire is, that I might have 20 nobles paid at Midsummer and Christmas, and 20 markes at Michaelmas and Easter. For these 2 quarters I have more use for money to furnish me with apparel and other necessities, than I have the two other.

April 17th, 1613.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^g Almost all the Lancashire gentry intended for the profession of the Law, and many who were not, received their education in Gray's Inn. Theophilus Ashton was of Clegg near Rochdale, where he built the large Hall-house yet remaining, and died an opulent man about 1630. It appears that in 1613, 20*l.* would purchase chambers in an Inn of Court ; and that 20*l. per annum* (equivalent to 20 marks and 20 nobles) were adequate to the yearly expences of a sober student.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 11th, 1613.

We are all well, as we hope you remaine, both at Thornhill and Lees, although I have heard otherwise of my brother and sister; but I hope the best because I have heard nothings from you. The figges, almondes, and rise, which came unto you, was a token from your godsonne. Our greate cosin Sir Wm. Wade^h is put out of his place, and into prison, upon Thursday last; but the cause I know not. I am now about a chamber: it is a faire chamber, butt will coste me much. Sende me worde when I shall have money towardes it, and how much you can well provide. I have already taken uppe of my quarterage 9 pounce, and I shall neede more this quarter 3 pounce, as I imagine there will remaine for the nexte quarter 8 pounce, which, if it please you, may be returned against Midsomer. Remember me, I pray you, to Mr. Waterhouse and myne aunts. His ould acquainttance and friend Dr. Browne died upon Saturday last, miserablie and feare-

^h Son of Armigel Wade, whom Thoresby (Ducat. Leod. p. 155) calls the English Columbus, and a Yorkshireman by birth. See also Duc. Leod. p. 607. Sir William Wade had been Clerk of the Council to Queen Elizabeth, and it was probably from this office that he was now displaced by King James. See Fuller's Worthies in Yorkshire, p. 202.

fullye on a dead palsey; he is founde to be worth 15s. 2d. and 600 pounce indebted to University Collegeⁱ.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Graie's Inne, May 11th, 1613.

69.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 29th, 1613.

I HAVE received 2 letters from you, with a handkerchiefe from my sister Nettleton, which I have delivered to Mrs. Longley; she is nowe very sicke, and hath beene a fourth-night or more: she was purposed to have gone downe into Yorkshire this summer. I tould her of 40s. received of Christopher Brookes, which she will not have repaid; but is sorry that it comes to you in so small payments. I have bespoken your sugar, cynamon, ginger, and maces, which your godsone Jo. Gib. will sende. I woulde sett out from hence a weeke after Midsomer, and go by Oxforde.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Graie's Inne, May 29th, 1613.

ⁱ He had probably been Bursar of the College, an office in which such malversations have never been uncommon, though more frequently, it may be hoped, from the incurable inattention of scholars to money matters, than from voluntary fraud.

70.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

June 25th, 1613.

I HAVE received from you 2 letters, dated the 3d and 17th of June. For a horse I think I shall conveniently provide me to be at Thornhill about a moneth hence. I have bought a convenient chamber, and paid for it so much money as I had received, and there remains xxvs. more to be paid in Lancashire at Bartl^{mew}tyde, which I humbly intreat may be provided against that tyme. For my quarterage I shall take uppe 8 poundes. Mrs. Longley is well recovered (praysed be God!) and comends herself unto you. Your godsonne will provide you spices, and sende them by Wm. Day.

June 25th, 1613.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

71.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

November 5th, 1613.

I RECEIVED a letter about a weeke agoe from my sister, with two notes inclosed, also by Wm. Hall a paire of bandstrings and an angel in gould, as a token from you, which, as for all other things, my best recompense must be my dutiful thankfulness. Mrs. Longley and her sonnes sende comendaciounes and many thanks for their legacies. I pray you sende the 10 pounce I left behind, or part of it, to be here by the 27th of this monthe. I would have my gray

horse sould att any rate not under 3 pounce. Remember my best service to all good friends. Thus desyrynge your prayers, I take my leave.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Nov. 5, 1613, Graye's Inne.

72.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

Nov. 27th, 1613.

I HAVE lately received 2 letters from you, with the first a gowne cloath, 2 pillowbears, and 2 handkerchiefs from myne aunt Nell; with the latter by Wm. Hall 5 poundes I shall write to my cosin Greenwood with all speede, that he from Oxford or I from here may certifie his pleasure about his teand^k barnes: I heare he is in good health. Mrs. Longley sendes you kindest comendations, and a yearde of lawne for a ruffe: here is also 12 poundes of pepper for you att 2s. 2d.¹ the pounce. The same tyme which you sent last Mr. Ray sent also to your godson for pepper, who sente him lesse (as he did unto you) than was sente for; therefore there is sume (6 lb. as I take it) inclosed for him, if he be not otherwise provided. I have sent you withall Cooper upon the Romans, hard waxe, and a hatte for my sister. I should have sent

^k i. e. tithe: the word is yet retained in Scotland.

¹ Two-thirds of the present price.

Mr. Waterhous his bookes ere now, but that I stay looking every day when Dr. Willette^f shall come forth.

Nov. 27th, 1613.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

LOVING MOTHER,

Dec. 18th, 1613.

I RECEIVED your letter the 16th, with a token from my sister Mary. The tyme was so shorte I coulde not so conveniently as I desire sende downe your hatte nor my sister's stuffe against Christmas; but they shall come (God willinge) shortly after. I sent my sister a hatt by John Nayler; it cost 9s. or 11s. I forgette which; if I knew where it were amisse I mighte mende it the next tyme. For Sir George I must and will ever acknowledge myself and what I have to be at his commande, which should be very hard if I did not readily and willinglye doe. I will therefore (with your good leave and furtherance) be ready against the Assizes in Lent, if he desire it, to do unto him there all the honor and service I may, appointed in such habits as may beseeme a member of the Society wherein I live, with a man or 2 to weare my li-

^f Dr. Andrew Willet, who died in 1621. He published no fewer than 46 theological works; so that I may be allowed to confess my ignorance which of the number is here meant.

very. My cosin Charles hath bene sicke of the gout. I pray you give Katharine Allen thanks for her token.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Graye's Inne, Dec. 18, 1613.

74.

DEARE MOTHER,

Feb. 16th.

I HAVE received from Mr. Greenwood ten pounds, with divers kind tokens from you and Mrs. Waterhouse, for which I owe much thankfulness. Your parson desires I dare say as much to be at Thornhill as you do to have him there; he will come very shortly I thinke, for this snow hath made the wayes such as that he cannot bringe my cosin Margaret downe with him at this tyme. We are all sorry to heare of your heavy newes, but patience must help to make that easy which cannot be altered. For my cominge downe I have loste so muche tyme of late that I had neede to redeem it now; nevertheless if my beinge at Thornhill might doe you any good, I am and shall ever be ready when it shall please you to sende, but otherwise I desire to stay till next winter; but if I come I had rather ride on myne own horse, the wayes be so foule. Myne uncle Alexander desires to heare some newes of his wife: Mr. Vernon writes to him that she was in peril of death.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Graye's Inn, Feb. 16.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

I HAVE received your letter this 20th of March : so foule have the ways bene, and so hard the passage, that the carriers could not get through any sooner. I have used the best means I could with my Lo. Shrewsbury^m to obtaine Geo. Carre's wardshippe; and I am persuaded I might have gotten it, had not his grandfather prevented me. My Lord tould me that he sayd he could mary the boy, or entitle the kinge unto him, by purchasinge other landes, at which his Lo. seemed to be highlye displeased; neverthelesse I am in some hope to buy him out, though I shall pay dearer for it, if some about my Lo. have not begged him already. I desire to know the most that the ould man will give; or if he like not that course, I thinke it better to buy some land holden of the kinge, for then I shall suere to have the wardshippe, rather than to marry him.

March 20, 1614.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^m Gilbert Talbot, Earl of Shrewsbury, who died in May 1616. Wardship and marriage, two of the greatest oppressions of the feodal law, were happily done away at the Restoration. While they subsisted, minors were robbed of the mesne profits of their estates by the Crown or the purchaser of the wardship; and, what was worse, were often made miserable for life by marriages in which their own inclinations were never considered.

76.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 20th, 1614.

YOUR hatte cost 12 shillings as I remember. Mr. Greenwood was likened to a wife in Oxford a yeare agoe; the gentlewoman was sister-in-law to a doctour there, his wife's sister, and his brother's widdow: she hath living 5 children, all which have their porcions payed, and are broughte uppe by several of their friendes. I oftentimes enquired of her since there was any such reporte made to my tutour, and I have hearde a generale good reporte of her for religion, huswyfrye, and estateⁿ; what hath bene done in the businesse I cannot certifie you, I shall knowe more the nexte weeke, when Mr. Greenwood will be here. This I dare say, that a wife shall not withdraw him from his charge; for I know his resolution is unmoveable (whether he marry or not), to dwell at Thornhill. If Mr. Waterhouse be willinge to selle his nagge, I shall bee verie desirous to have him, for he likes me^o exceedingly. I am glad to heare you are all well, especially my sister Nettleton, for I much feared her. I have received 3 handkerchiefs; they come in verie good tyme, for I had almost wanted some.

May 20th, 1614.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

- The *quærenda* at present would have been fortune and *accomplishments*.
- That is, "I like *him*."

77.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

June 10th.

MICHAEL Bentley hath boughte to your use the 2 closes on the South side Calder, which he sayth you spake to him about. The daye of payment is sooner than he spake to you of, because Mr. Birkbye is present in want of moneye; yet because I thoughte it inconvenient to foregoe them, I have payed Mr. Birkbye his money (40*l.*): I procured it by my tutour's means, of Mr. Marries^p, Sir Thomas Wentworth his man: it is to be payed to Daniel Foxcroft of Halifax, within sixe dayes after Witsontide. I pray you let one goe and paye it, and take a letter which Mr. Marries gave to Mr. Raye at Daniel Foxcroft's; so that they may be sente to

^p This man long afterwards came to an untimely and miserable end, which drew from his Lord (Strafford) the following serious and excellent reflections: "I confess the loss of the man troubles me not so much, albeit in truth I loved him very well, as the sadness and indeed fearfulness of the misfortune through which he was lost, most grievous, God knows, for him, and scandalous to all that have relation to him. Nor do I think he was drowned, but rather that, heavy with drink, he dropped from his horse. But enough of so woeful a subject, which I wish might never be mentioned or remembered again, further than to consider in it the just judgments of God, and to deter us from this swinish vice, and all other which may bring upon ourselves like punishments." Strafford's Letters, p. 486.

Wentworth Woodehouse 'mediately afterwarde. Mr. Marries shewed me a great kindness in p'curing this fourty poundes, else I know not howe to have borrowed so much; the more desirous am I that he be put to noe prejudice by the not-payment of the money at the day appointed.

June 10th.

Your loving sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

78.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

June 13th, 1614.

I RECEIVED your letter and 17 shillings by Wm. Hall. We are all in good healthe (praysed be God!) as we hope you remaine. My sister shall have a saddle provided, onely I desire to know how much she will bestow: about 6 pounde or 20 nobles will buy a faire one^a, with studdes well guilte. If you thinke fitte that I should goe downe after next term I am contented, and shall be readye. My cosin Charles Greenwood will be at Thornhill, I thinke, within 3 weeks at the furthest.

June 13th, 1614.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^a Half of which sum would buy a lady's side-saddle at present: but the expences of this period consisted in ornament and finery.

79.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

November 4th.

I HAVE sente your cuppe and the table cloath. The cuppe weighth 8 ounces and a quarter at 5s. 7d. the oz. which amounteth to 46s. in all. It is as nere the fashion of that you sent as I could gette any. The silver that I had came to 21s. 6d. at 4s. 6d. the ounce (for some of it was so coarse I could gette no more for it), which with the double soveraign^r I had, makes in all 43s. 6d.; so the residue is 2s. 6d. and a groat (too deare) for the boxe. My measure was not perfect for your communion table cloath^s: but as I remember it was to be 4 yeardes longe and one yearde and a halfe broad, I could gette none good so narrow: this which I have sent is 2 yards in breadth and 4 and a halfe longe; it cost 3s. 4d. the yearde, which was just your money, 15 shillings.

^r Meaning, I suppose, the double ryal or single sovereign; and even this must have been an old coin, for the single sovereign of Elizabeth and James I. was current for 30s. The double sovereign is peculiar, as far as I know, to the coinage of Henry VII.

^s This pious lady, it appears, was now adorning the altar of the parish church at Thornhill: the cup was probably intended for the same purpose. Broad-cloth at 3s. 4d. a yard must either have been very cheap or very coarse. The finest Spanish broad-cloth about this time cost 20s. *per* yard.

Your tokens were kindly taken. I gave the bacon unto my cosin Elmhirst, and the beefe unto your godson.

November 4th.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

80.

GOOD MOTHER,

November 3d, 1615.

I am now safely come to London on All Souls Day, after a faire and pleasant journey: my horse held out better than he promised the first day; then he halted, but now he is sound. I have taken uppe 10 poundes of Mr. Greenwood, which I pray you to repay him. I have been so throng^t since I came that I have not had leisure to see any body; but I heare Mrs. Longley is well. I must intreat myne aunt Nell and my sister Elizabeth to have me excused that I doe not sende their bookes till the next tyme, for I have not had leisure to buy them yet. There hath been a greate adoe about the poysoninge a gentleman^u in the Tower; one is hanged, another fled, some examined, and divers imprisoned; but small certaintye is yett knowne. It is confidently reported that the Earle of Somerset is sent to the Tower yesterday night. By Wm. Hall a glasse of wormwood water was safely

^t *i. e.* busy: a remnant of his Yorkshire dialect, which neither Oxford nor Gray's Inn had worn away.

^u Sir Thomas Overbury. It is amusing to meet with old established facts in English history spoken of as the news of the day.

broughte, but I thanke God I have no use of it yet; for I hope this fitte of toothack is past. I send down my horse by Wm. Hall, and your sheet that lapped my clothes.

November 3d, 1615.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

81.

GOOD MOTHER,

March 10th, 1616.

I HAVE had a faire and good journey I thanke God, and I am now safely come to Graye's Inne. I came to my uncle Leadbetter's, and stayed with myne aunt all Tuesday, and so escaped a rainy day. I founde her sicke of an ague, and myne uncle pensive; but I hope there is no danger, but that she will recover. By the way we light on very goode company, and the way grew very faire upon us. My mare did carry me very well; I thinke you may ride on her now when she comes home. We have the Lord Keeper of Graye's Inne (Sir Francis Bacon^x) made last weeke. The Kinge sets forwards to come towards you on Fryday next, as we heare. Instead of other news I have sent you herein 3 pictures. I have not seene Sir Geo. yette; he was at court yesterday, and I thinke he is in health, so is my lady (whom I saw) but for a could; she remembers you, so doth both the

^x The glory and shame of that house.

little gentlewomen and Mrs. Mary. So I take my leave till Dicke Hall come.

March 10, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

82.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

March 15th, 1616.

RICHARD Halles stay gives me occasion to write more than I looked for; for thinkinge of his goinge this day, I excused myself for not writinge in my letter unto Mr. Greenwood; but seeing he takes longer tyme, I thoughte good to remember my dutye unto you. I have not been with Sir Geo. since I writte to you, but I hope they are all well, for I saw my Lady and Mrs. Mary (and I thinke Sir George was with them) in their coach goinge yesterday out of the towne w'th the Kinge; his Majestye is now on his journey, and I hear he intendes to stay at Yorke longer than was first appointed. The marriage with Spain seemes to be att a stay, for there is never a worde stirringe of it that I can hear certainly; perhaps it is by reason of the stirrs in France. If myne uncle Carr doe send you his daughter, I pray signifie unto him that we are unwillinge to let out any money for the use of the childe; but if I could heare of a lease or other commodity whereon to bestowe it, I should be willinge to employe it soe as the child should have reasonable co'modity, and no

losse. Commende me to myne ant Nell and my sister and cousin Longley. I shall sende 2 bibles, one for my ant, and another for my sister Elizabeth.

March 15th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

83.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

March 21st, 1616.

I HAVE resceaved a gammon of bacon from you for my cosin Wm. Elmhirst, and have sente it unto him accordingelye. I am glad that you have had so fine a seed tyme: we enjoyed also our part of the benefit in a faire journey, God be praised for it. I was with Sir George this weeke; they are all well. Mrs. Mary hath gotten Flockton Tithe for you, she tould me; I believe, she will write to you herselfe of it. I pray you remember that either you sell to Lo. Roos his owne tythe, or that you fetch it home; for so I promised him. Mrs. Mary was to be requested by me to buye some pretty stript stuffe for myne ant Nell before Easter, but I sette not downe whether it was for a kirtle or for the back of a loose bodyed gowne, only I thinke for a kirtle and bodys; yet it were not amisse that myne aunt should certifie us how much yearde-broad stuffe she useth therein. When it will please you to have a gowne yourselfe sende me worde, and I shall buy it as well as I canne. Thus I take my leave.

March 21st, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

84.

GOOD MOTHER,

April 11th, 1616.

As for my saddle cloth I am not yette fully resolved whether to have it set on here or in Yorkshire, therefore it may stay a little. I have sent you a hat; I pray you send word how you like it, and how it fitts, that I may light right another time. I thinke you have a bande already; or else if I knew what a one you would have I would sende one. I pray you commende me to ould Mr. Nettleton; I have sent him herewith all his Canarie wine^y, and I wish it may be to his liking: also your service book is to come now better bound than it was last time. I pray you sende me the 6 yeardes of (minim) browne clothe, which I had of myne uncle Lockwood, for I doe mean to make a suit of it here after Midsummer. My sister's spoons be not readye.

April 11th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Wine, 4 gallons, at 3s. 4d., 13s. 4d.^y; a runlete and portage 1s. 6d.; the boy that filled it 6d. (pay not this unlesse it be good); hat and boxe 8s. 6d. (but that is myne.)

^y So that Canary wine in 1616 sold for 10d. a quart!

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 3d, 1616.

I HAVE received your letter. The barke house at Darton I thinke will not last long. I looked at it as I remember at my comminge uppe, but I know not whether the tenant intende to builde it againe or no; which if he doe he had neede have the timber towards it, for I thinke his house is dear enough of his rente; therefore I could wish it might stay till I come downe, unlesse the tenant seemes willinge that it should be soulede: 4*l.* seemes to me a good price for it. I like your project well in giving Mr. Nettleton the wine in that manner, as I remember I had such a thoughte in my head when it came, yette fearing that if he had occasion to sende againe that mighte hinder him, I did omitte it. I have boughte you 18 yarde of Turkey grogram, I thinke it is a great deal better than the sample you sente me both for the colour and the stuffe, for it is of 4 thredes, and your sample of 3 onely; it cost 6*s.* 8*d.* a yearde, in all 6*l.*; for lace, I purpose to sende it after, when I shall gette that which is good made of purpose. Myne aunt's bible cost about... as I remember; but I loke for no money for it, her kindnesse hath deserved more at myne handes than so. I wante 2 pieces of harde wax sealed with either ende of Mr. Waterhous's seale;

as also I woulde know what should be written on the plate which I have ordered here to be made for his tombe^z. I have mette with Giles Jolife, and I loke for money from him.

May 3d, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

86.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 23d, 1616.

WE are all here in good health (praysed be God!) so we hope and wish you may remaine. Dame Waterhous is safely arived here, and commendeth herself unto you. I have paid all there, and have also sente you a note of the particulars; it comes to 1*l*. 4*s*. 4*d*. My cousin Longley hath sent myne aunt Nell her velvet dyed, but she will not tell what it cost; she hath sent also a boxe of preserved ginger to my brother Nettleton (I pray you commende me to him, and tell him I thinke it will do him good to eate of it in a morninge), and

^z This epitaph yet remains engraven on a brass plate affixed to a pillar in the church of Thornhill. It is as follows: "Here lyeth the body of Philip Waterhous, 3d sonne of John Waterhouse of Halifax, Esq. Maister of Artes, and sometime Fellow of University College, Oxon. He dyed the 16th of Januari 1614, the 57th yere of his age. Hellen, daughter of Richard Lacye, of Cromwel botome, Esq. his beloved wife dedicated this monument to his memori." Arms of Waterhouse: Or, a Pile engrailed Sable. Motto, *Veritas liberabit*. There are also impaled the arms of Lacy and Cromwel bottom.

3 lb. and a quarter more, sent alltogether for better carriage, which she intreates you to divide, viz. one pound for my sister Mary, one pounce for yourself, another for myne ant Nell, and a quarter for dame Clayton. The grene lace whiche was sent before is not usually solde, but it was made purposely for you, and if it come againe it may be a greate while before they finde a chapman for it; and therefore they desire you to keepe it, though you pay less than the price, if you have any use for it. I have here sent you downe two very good hats, as I thinke, which Mr. Bladen bought for myne aunt and you; he hath proffered me kindnesse about the lease at Haddlesey: I pray you thanke him. We deferre myne aunt's business against a fitter tyme, the next tearme. Sir George hath had a cough here a good while, and he mendes but slowly; it makes him drowsie; but I hope there is no danger. I thanke my sister for my key. As I remember I should have brought her a fanne, but (such is my negligence) I have almost forgotte. I pray you commende me to all our goode friendes with you or at Lees. Thus with my humble duety unto you, desiringe your prayers, I take my leave.

Your lovinge sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Graye's Inne, May 23, 1616.

I will speake againe with myne uncle to take some course with his tenants that you may have your money which you have layd out, if it may be.

87.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

May 31st, 1616.

I HAVE received a longe quishinge and a gaman of bacon for my cosin Longley and her sisters; they return you commendations with thanks. My cosin Longley thanks myne ant Nell for Angellica, 6 ounces and a halfe, which she sent her. I consulted with Mr. Bladen about the farmes at Haddelsey, and we thoughte best that he shoulde just speake to Parker, which he promised to doe accordingly. I pray you put myne uncle Lockwood in minde of the springe^a, it doth no good standing, I thinke; neither doe I thinke the tyme of the yeare past yette for pillinge, if myne uncle gett leisure to goe downe. Sir George^b mendes of his colde; but I heare not yette of any agreement towards: it may be my Lorde of Shrewsbury mighte effecte it. I have had my healthe very welle, thanke God, since I came, savinge one fitte of the head ache, which was not extream neither. The greate Lord^c and his La. are both condemned for this poysoninge, and we looke dayly for execution. I shall, peradventure, sende you the particulars of theire arraignment, if I can get it copyed out conveniently, and if that I doe not heare of it in private. The new Lo. of Shrewsbury hath beene with the kinge, and, as the

^a i. e. spring wood.^b See p. 114.^c The Earl of Somerset.

towne reportes, hath had a very gracious answere. Myne uncle was sayinge, he thoughte my cosin Savile Radcliffe would do so much for him as procure him his rents of his tenants; therefore, if it please you, you may sende him to helpe you to what is behinde.

May 31st, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

88.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

June 14th, 1616.

I AM glad to heare of your good health, now especially when so many are sicke amongst us; you know what is best to prevent infection; and I pray God keepe us all, and prepare us. This ague, as it seemes, hath beene in many counties, I heare in Suffolk and in Lincolnshire; and here about this towne hath been a disease which some have thoughte to be a bastard pleurisie. Mr. Jo. Gibson dyed of a hot ague without much sense of sickness or paine till towards the latter ende: I was with him divres tymes, and once stayed with him a goode while, but none in that house had any harme afterwards; but his brother Robert dyed of his disease, as nearly as I canne guess by the speeche of those about him, for I was but once with him, and stayed but a while nether. When I founde him so well, I little suspected death, else, p'haps, I might have beene more there, but I was glad I was not there, lest there might be some infection; as I thinke there co'monly

is more or lesse in those hot diseases. I was yesterday at the Fleet, and there founde Sir George^d and my Lady in good healthe and heart; they have great store of good company, both of prisoners of their own ranke, knightes, and gentlewomen, and of their friends that come to see them; so that they live very contentedly and merily. I pray you thanke myne aunt Nell for her kind token w^{ch} she sent me. I looked for her coate of armes to have come uppe, as Mr. Bladen tould me it would be heare; but the workman may leave room for it. I thanke my sister also for her cuffs and socks, which I had neede of.

June 14th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

89.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

June 21st, 1616.

I HAVE not seene my cosin Longley since your letter came, therefore I doe not know her mynde about the sendinge uppe her clothe. I cannot tell you what the scarlette which myne co. Copley sente you is worthe, unlesse I knew the quantity of itte, and whether it be cloth or bayes:

^d Sir George Savile. His lady was Mary daughter of George Earl of Shrewsbury. I do not know the occasion of their commitment here alluded to. See p. 112.

a yearde of scarlet^e cloth this yeare is worthe 3*l*. 10*s*. a yearde, of bayes 14 or 20 shillings, accordinge to the goodnesse of the colour. Sir Geo. and my La. are welle; I thinke they will be going downe shortly. Dr. Lyster^f is comminge downe too, if any of you want his advice: I pray you sende him a capon or somewhat, for I may have use of him hereafter. Yesterday I hearde the Kinge in the Star Chamber^g; he was pleased to sitt there in p'son, and to give the charge to the judges that are to goe their circuities, which the Lo. Chancellor is wont to doe. The Bishop of Winchester^h was at the Council Borde on Sunday, in healthe, as it is saide, and dyed on Monday; and the B'p of Bath & Wellesⁱ is reported to succeede him.

June 21, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^e In grain. The dying material must have been extremely scarce and dear.

^f Dr. Matthew Lister, for an account of whom see History of Craven, p. 99.

^g This is an instance of the pedantic impertinence of James, who sometimes took his place and spoke in the King's Bench, till he received a respectful hint from the Judges to forbear.

^h Dr. Thomas Bilson, died June 18, 1616.

ⁱ Dr. James Montague. This translation took place in October following.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

July 12th, 1616.

I HAVE receaved from you scarlet bayes for a wasstcoat: I have heard of much vertue in the coloure for holesomenes, and therefore could have wished that you had kepte it for your owne use; but, since it is your pleasure to bestow it on me, I doe thankfully accept it, and so shall weare it for your sake. I have sente downe my sister Eliz. her fanne, it cost 9s. 6*d.* and is of the best feathers, which she may have some money for againe after that it is worne. If the handle doe not like her, she may have one of silver for 4 or 5 shillings^k. Dinis boule also is sent now, it coste, as appears in a note sente in the boxe w'th it, 5s. 4*d.* and the boxe 3*d.*; the boule pleased me so muche better than other which I saw about her price, that I thoughte 4*d.* would be ill saved. Wm. Stringer's suit cost 6s. 1*d.* which he must pay, though he be recompensed: I know not whether I writ so before or not.

July 12th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^k See Johnson and Steevens's Shakspeare, in the Merry Wives of Windsor, where some of these old fans are engraven. The stealing the handle of the Lady Bridget's fan must have been grand larceny.

91.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

July 31st, 1616.

I RECEIVED a l^{re} from Mr. Stocke, wherein it seemed that he purposed to leave fortie shillings with you to sende hither. I have laid out for him so much (wanting 20 pence) in booke, w^{ch} I have sent downe by Richarde Hall; and I shall take uppe the 4 shillings of Thomas Spivie, which if you repay with the money which you have or shall receive from Mr. Stocke, I shall be indebted to one of you 5 groats. I have received 5s. 6d. from my sister. I shall sende her a booke, and a Bible too if she wille, for I learn that they are printinge in a lesse volume than ever they were yette, which it may be will please her. I am in good healthe, saveing that I have gotte a little could, which I shall arme myself against, by God's help. Many thanks to Mr. Greenwood for his last letter. I thinke Mr. Thomas bee at Thornhill before this tyme. Sir George is comminge down to-morrow, I take it, with the corps of the late Earl of Shrewsbury¹. Thus humbly I take my leave, &c. &c. &c. &c.

July 31st, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

¹ Gilbert Earl of Shrewsbury died May 8th, 1616, at London, and was buried at Sheffield. The remains of the great were then treated with more respect than at present, when they are abandoned to servants and undertakers' men.—Sir George Savile was his sister's son.

Aug. 22d, 1616.

I AM very glad for the plenty of the yeare, and of the well inninge of your hay; I wish the like seasonableness of weather for your corne, if God see it meete, who crowneth the yeare with his goodnesse, and his cloudes drop fatnesse. I could wish that 5*l.* 11*s.* with 40 shillings more were bestowed on a good lustye nagge, of a middle stature, that would carry me to London, and downe in the winter, whose legges would not swell as the great bayes doe. I will provide my sister a Cowper on the Romaines against the next tyme. It raines soe now I cannot well go abroad. But for her Bible she must waite a while, for they are not printed yett. I shall speake with myne uncle about his tenants againe, and accordinge to his aunswere you may pay or not pay his parte. I thinke itte no breach of charity to let Mr. Vernon^m recover against him, if it be a greate summe he is bounde in to him; yet, if he will do any reason, it were neither policie nor good manners in me to loose him, though I am very indifferent whether I ever get ought by him or not, especially as thinges stande. It is a far easier and freeer course for me to bee content with such thinges as God hath plentifully and sufficiently bestowed on

^m See the pedigree of Radcliffe.

me already, if I can but learne to live accordingely, then to gape after dead men's shoes, and then, if any thinge should fall, to be perplexed with I know not what restitution. Therefore as I will not contemn his kindnesse shewn to me, soe I will not be sicke for his estate. I have sent Mr. Greenwood Dr. Hackwill's booke against Dr. Carrier, and a letter from our cousin Jonas, which came to me on Tuseday last.

Your lovinge sonne,

Aug. 22d, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

93.

Sept. 13th, 1616.

I PRAY you pay unto George Spivie my quarterageⁿ now this Michælmass. I met with the passages about my Lo. Coke before the Council, and I have sente them herein inclosed: we know not yette what the ende will be. I hope you have heard of the stirrs in France about the Prince of Conde, or else I shall send it you, if you will.

Sept. 13th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

94.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

October 18th, 1616.

I HAVE sent the triacle w'ch you writte for, there is, I thinke, eleven pounce at 4*d*. the pounce, which came to

ⁿ A figure of 8 is marked over the word quarterage.

3s. 10*d.* the barrel, and portage 6*d.* in all 4s. 4*d.* It is reported that Sir Edward Cooke^o was made a private man yesterday, how true I know not. I pray you lette my bay horse be taken uppe, if he be not already, that he may come with Wm. Hall next tyme; for shortly after that tyme I hope to come downe, God willinge, if it please you. We have no great newes here, but that there is preparation made against the Prince's instalment^p. I thinke it will coste me a marke, and I am very glad that I escape so.

October 18th, 1616.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

95.

DEAR MOTHER,

Jan. 10th, 1617.

WM. Halle's unusual haste this last tyme made me come too late with my sister's lace and letters: I was at my cosin Elmhirst's at his comminge, and there lay a night or 2 this Xmas, where, I thanke God, I got free from toothache. The manner was this: amongst other thinges I used for my tooth, I had a little blacke paste which Mr. Geo. Kay had long since given to me to raise a blister withall behinde mine

^o June 18th this year Sir Edward Coke was suspended from his office of Chief Justice of the King's Bench, and deprived November 15th following.

^p Afterwards Charles the First. The gentlemen of the Inns of Court were properly magnificent on these occasions.

ear. I used at several tymes it at the one eare, and cantharides at the other, but neither did me that goode whiche before-times past they had done; only they-made the place very sore, and there grewe in my necke little lumpes like waxe kernells, but muche lesse; at laste my cheek swelled and grew to a head like a bile (but my paine ceased not), and broke. Then I mette with a woman who tyed hearbes unto my finger, whereby I had ease one night; but the next night I was as before: she tyed her hearbes again, and I had some mitigatio', and the breaking forth on my cheek healed; but when I leaſte of her hearbes I had greate pains, and my cheek swelled more than before, and swelled downe into my necke towardes my shoulder, but not muche. Then was Hall come, and I was thinkinge of goinge downe with him to change air, or to go to Cambridge: but my tooth-ache stayed immediately, and I have had none ever since; but the sore broke and ran the next day, and since hath healed uppe of itſelfe, ſo that now it is in a manner quite whole. I cannot tell whether the woman's medicine, or the blistering, or the humor of itſelf was going, or other way was the instrument of myne eaſe^a; but God was chiefe cauſe, who hath now given me reſt as after a long journey, to whoſe p'tection I committe you.

Jan. 10th, 1617.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

^a Certainly not the woman's quackery, which no man of Radcliffe's sense would now endure.

LOVINGE MOTHER,

July 4th, 1617.

I AM glad to heare of your healthe at this tyme, and that the towne keeps free; I hope it will holde so still. If my cosin Greenwood did give you a new calved quie and a paire of oxen it was a greate gift, and we must labour to do him as good a turne; but what intent or thoughte he had I know not: for of keepinge a greater house, or beinge towards a new daughter, I thinke you heare as much as I. I pray you give my sister thanks for her token: I would not have had her made me so deare a brother; and I desire to be remembered to my brother and her, and all there. Dr. Bankcroft^r hath sente you so many comendations that I am ashamed to have well nigh forgotten them; I saw him yesterday, and he still remembers Thornhill.

July 4th, 1617.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

From July 1617 to June 1624, the series of these Letters is interrupted: but it was an eventful period in the life of George Radcliffe; for in this interval of seven years he became an

^r Master of University College, and afterwards Bishop of Oxford.

eminent practising lawyer, and was twice married, first to - - - - daughter of John Finch, afterwards Baron Finch of Fordwich, and Keeper of the Great Seal, who died early and without issue; secondly, to Elizabeth daughter of Sir Francis Trappes, of Knaresborough in Yorkshire, with whom he seems to have lived in uninterrupted happiness, until the iniquity of the times put an end to all their domestic enjoyments, driving him into exile, and leaving behind the companion of his better fortunes in danger and penury. To this lady, who seems to have been every way deserving of so wise and virtuous an husband, the next series of Letters is principally addressed.—She was cousin-german to Sir Thomas Wentworth; and this connexion laid the foundation of an intimacy equally useful and honourable to both parties, which was only dissolved by the death of Strafford.

97.

SWEET HEARTE,

June 4th, 1624.

I CAME to this towne Tuesday, and so made it 6 dayes easy journeyes; but I rested on Sunday^s at Stamford, where I light with another cousin of yours, Mr. Gower. All are well here except my cousin John, who is yett prettily

* For which Sir Matthew Hale would have assured him on his own experience that he should succeed the better during the ensuing week.

recovered of a fitt which helde him a weeke. The Parliament ended on Saturday last, and many good lawes were made; but Michaëlmas terme is not shortened, which bill might have had your voice I dare say. I supped this night with Sir Thos.^t who desires to be remembred unto you. There is talk of preparation for warres, but that is all which I see. There was a great watch sett in London last night, but why we know not. Some say the Duke of Buckingham is still sicke, and that his disease lies much in his head; and this is such newes as I have to tell you, savinge that the Earl of Middlesex^u came out of the Tower on Tuesday, and, they say, hopes to be somebodye for all this^w; but there is an Act of P. passed for sale of his landes, to satisfy such as he is indebted to; so I hope my Lady will gett her money. Farwell myne owne deare love. Remember my duety to my mother, my service and love where it is due; and God blesse my boy, and kepe us all!

Your lovinge husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, June 4th, 1624.

*To my right deare and lovinge wife, Mrs. Ann Ratcliffe,
at Overthorpe in Thornhill.*

^t Wentworth, her cousin-german.

^u Lionel Cranfield, Lord Treasurer, impeached this year for High Crimes and Misdemeanors, and fined 50,000*l.* at the instigation of the Duke of Buckingham.

^w He was not deceived in this hope, for he survived in honour to the year 1645. His epitaph in Westminster Abbey, alluding to this political

MY DEARE LOVE,

Feb. 4th, 1626.

It seemes to me to be a greate while since my cominge hither, and that all this while I have not written to you. I have diligently enquired of men to go downwards, and yett coulde not heare of any that went further than Haughton. My Lady^x, your aunt, commendes herself very kindlye unto you, and if she might have your company here, she would provide a lodginge for you. I tould her you should come uppe at Easter, if you pleased, which she was very glad to here; but I said I could not undertake so much without knowinge first your mynd; for all my country affaires rested upon your discretion. Very earnest she was thereupon that I should write to you, and understand whether you could then come uppe or no, and bring your boy with you (she will give him a saddle); and that I would certify her thereof as soon as might be. I pray you therefore write me your opinion. I heare by Mr. Man (now lately come) that you and my boy are well, which as it is alwayes to me the best newes, so now especially, in regard you were scarce well when I leaft you; yett I wonder you should be very well, and I understand it rather by Peter

storm, says, "Jactatus tantum, non naufragus enatavit, sedatâ hieme fixit anchoram in re lautâ; sereno senectutis otio, expiravit."

* The Countess of Leicester.

Man's words than your I^{rs}, which in that point had bene of testimonies both more welcome and of better credit. God's blessinge and mine to the childe!

Yours, &c. &c. &c.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE

Grayes Inne, Feb. 4th, 1626.

99.

GOOD NAN,

Feb. 20th, 1625.

I now longe to see you and my boy, which I hope I shall doe shortlye. Sir Thos. Wentworth's goinge from hence is so verye incertaine, as that I resolve not to stay for him. By Thursday next, I thinke, I shall sett forward; I must be at Haughton by the first of March, or else I shall fall short of assizes^y, which, God willinge, I will not. I pray you gett horses from Overthorpe, for you, your boy, and your maide, that I may carry you with me when I come: the white horse for you, Bobtaile for Tom, and another for Besse Carre. I am in some haste at this tyme, and therefore must make an ende, in hope to dispatch all my businesse to-day and to-morrowe; then I am for my journey, which I earnestly desire might present you with your affectionate husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, Feb. 20th, 1626.

^y He now attended the Northern Circuit.

DEAREST LOVE,

October 20th, 1626.

I AM glad to hear of Lady Margaret's day^z on Tuesday last, if it then held. God sende them longe dayes, and much contentment one of another! It was very well done of you to go with her, where could I heartily have wished myselfe. The Judge is very well pleased, and right glad to heare the newes. I have herewth sente you a wast-coat, which I could have wished had been better then itt is; but I desire you to weare it continually for my sake, and when it is worne, I shall, God willinge, get you a better, if I canne: my La. Hutton's 40s. will almost pay for it. I am glad to heare that you are all well, especially my boy, whom God blesse. I feare he went not to Wentworthe Woodhouse with you. I pray you send me my blacke cloath cloake, lined with bayes, and buttoned downe the side, and one towell, or too. I shall want a ruffe, shagged I would have it. Your aunt^a talkes of cominge downe, and to allowe you for her boarde 20 shillings a weeke, 10 apiece for her usher and gentlewoman, and 8 shillings apiece for her other servants.

^z I do not know who the lady is whose marriage seems to be here alluded to.

^a Widow of Robert Sidney, first Earl of Leicester, and younger brother of Sir Philip Sidney. He died July 13, 1626, and was buried at Penshurst.

But my Lord Evers^b (like a scarecrow) frights her, she dares not: it were no hard matter to persuade her either way, as I conceive. I can finde myself employment enough about her business; and I wish it may not stay me, when the terme is done, longer than I would.

Your lovinge husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, October 20th, 1626.

102.

DEARE LOVE,

October 24th, 1616.

I HAVE this day rec^d both your l^{rs} by my cosin Greenwood, and in them much good newes of the health of you and the boy. I will sende a pounce of amber, if I can gett it, to-morrow. I shall likewise provide a knit wastcote for my aunt Waterhous of worsted, such a one as I would allso p^{vide} for you, if I did not thinke that having one of worsteade, you would never weare that of silke. Your cosin Sir John^c Smith is this day sett forwardes for Yorkeshire, to let his landes at Saltaugh. At his returne from thence he sayeth

^b William Lord Evers. From this and some following passages Lady Leicester appears to have been a weak, helpless woman. It does not appear how Lord Evers had acquired this influence over her.

^c Whom I suppose to have been son of Sir Thomas Smith, the first husband of Lady Leicester.

he will come bye Thornhill, and lodge with you, taking that in his way to Tamworth to his wife's grandmother the olde Countesse of Leycester^d. I toulde him that his com'inge by you would be the death of a capon, and he deserves to be made welcome. Your aunt remembers you often, and wishes herselfe wth you, but that the worlde should not say that she goes for my Lord Evers. I am glad my cosin Greenwood is cum'e to advise me what to doe concerninge her. She comittes her estate into my handes, to dispose of her busines in law, which are diverse, to direct her expences, and take her servants accounts (she wantes a butler, by the way, that should sumtimes be her footman, and goe by her coach, and he must be enquired of in Yorkshire), to displace her servants, look to her rents, and baylifs accounts, and the leasinge of her lande, to provide her money, which now she wantes, and to be bounde for her (which I have already promised to do for 100*l*. and shall like to be put to it for another). All these services require one's whole tyme, whereas I must be absent in the vacations, and busy in the termes. Howsoever, I am neither experienced in, nor affectinge of, these employments for another, who never meddled much in the like occasions of myne owne. What then shall I doe? to leave her were (at least in her opinion) most p'iudiciall, she havinge comitted

^d Qu. Was this the Lady Douglas Sheffield, proved to have been wife of the great Earl of Leicester, and mother of his unfortunate son Sir Robert Dudley?

herself wholly to me, and having none else that are able and trusty both, to doe her the service. And, on the other side, to doe as I doe now were in parte to discontinue my profession. Twice a day I am with her. Some journeyes I have to towne for her business's, and when I alledge myne owne, she is ready to weepe, and desires me not to forsake her. For this, if I shoulde gaine any parte of her estate, then should I gett withall a greate deale of hart-burninge from those that are nearer then I am (methinkes I have a wolfe by eares, which I cannot tell very well how either to hold or lett goe). Gladlye would I helpe to settle a course in her estate, and doe her any service which might suit with my course of life; but I cannot be a stewarde altogether. I pray you, love, let me have your counsell herein. I could hartily wish you were heare, if I knew either how to gett you upp, or to get away when you are here. Otherwise by conferringe with you, and by your meanes, I think I could gett out of this straight. I wish your company with all my heart, &c. &c.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, October 24th, 1626.

102.

GOOD LOVE,

November 1st, 1626.

I THANKE you hartily for your last discreete letter. There is a great difference betwene my Lady Leycester

as she now is, in her grief and mourninge, and what she may be hereafter, when tymes shall weare away the tartnesse of sorrow, and she shall beginge to resume her former thoughts and contentments. Then will the distance from her former acquaintances, the straightness of our little house, and the small use of her great honor and cou'teshippe^e, make her, per^{ps}, desire Londo' and her acquaintance there, as much as now she seekes privacy. Besides, I doe verily believe that (if myne owne advantage were myne ende) I should by some distance better preserve my credit with her, than if I were so neare as always to live with her. But that which most moves me is, the contented estate and manner of life which we now enjoy, you and I, by the blessinge of God, whilst we live as we doe, which we may alter more easily than we can amende. I for my parte neither desire anything more nor otherwise than it is^f. I p'suaded your aunt to live with her sonne, not as before, bearing half charges, but at a certainty and rate to be agreed on; which she utterly dislikes. She could better suit herself to sojourne with the Lady Barbara^g, which, p'haps, will be accepted of. Your aunt and I had this evening some

^e Countess-ship.

^f A pleasing picture of a well-regulated and contented mind. Mr. Radcliffe seems to have possessed one of Martial's ingredients into an happy life:

"Vitam quæ faciunt beatiorem—

Quod sis, esse velis, nihilque malis."

^g Probably Lady Barbara Sidney, her step-daughter, married either now or afterwards to Thomas Smith, Viscount Strangford in Ireland.

speeches about her house and expences : there she findes much fault with Mrs. Austen for her expensiveness and wante of care to looke to thinges used in her house ; and it seemes Mrs. Austen is to blame : I thinke they will parte. Your aunt is wonderfull desirous of your sister Mary to come and live with her : methinkes Mary should like the place well, for it may be her preferment ; and your father must part with her if Mary^h marry : and why not now uppo' such an occasion as this ? Write to your sister, and let me know what they thinke. I am about a course to free your aunt out of debt presently, which she hearkens after. Her debts are 1800*l*. whereof this course will discharge 1600, and the other 200 is due to Henry Challoner, who may well stay till Easter, and then the rents will pay it (of all this, if it should not be payed, as I hope it will.) I know not how to escape an absolute breach with my Lady, if I be not bounde for 240*l*. ; and it's well if I bring it so low. I shall have good security pawned me ; and if I doe not become bounde for so much, I cannot tell what course she can take, for her best friendes faile, and her bond will not go for 200. My Lady Fanshawe hath p'suaded her to sell her plate rather than she will lend her 140*l*. ; which she resolves to do : that will stop one gapp. Her East India adventure was thought to be worth 2000*l*. ; but my Lord could not sell it for above 900*l*. Now shippes are come in, and it will be sold

^h Afterwards wife of Charles Towneley, of Towneley in Lancashire, Esq. who was slain at Marston Moor in the service of Charles the First.

for 1200; a great losse. Sir Richard Smith hath it engaged to him for 1000*l*. which he sayth he must have paid in. If these thinges were done, then were we free; and itt shall be my labor to effect it. I hope I shall learne hereafter to know when I am well, and not, gaping after shadowes, to plunge myself into trouble. If I had my Lady out of debt, so as she should not be undone if I left her, I would free myself from all trouble, or never come att her. But I am in good hope that I shall shortly have all thinges right. Farewell, best wife.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, November 1st, 1626.

Shew this 1^{re} to nobody, nor any other concerninge my Lady; but burne them rather.

103.

DEARE LOVE,

November 10th, 1626.

I THANKE you for your letter, and am glad the wastcoat fitts. I have received also the cloak and 2 towells, which I needed not, because I had 2 before which I knew not of. I have sente you some dornixⁱ for the 2 canopies, and some fringe for them. Jonas Ratcliffe gave me a silver pott with a lid, which I prize as a great juell; and it is now sente

ⁱ I do not know what this was, but probably a manufacture carried on at Dornock in Scotland. It is frequently mentioned in an inventory of the furniture at Skipton Castle, A. D. 1581.

you in the box. And there is also a silver boull, which I bought for my mother. I have gott a ringe made for you, like yours which I weare: it is putt in the silver pott; accept it fro' me as a token of my love, which you have right well deserved. Your aunt's business will be now, I hope, no great trouble to me, for I resolve not to go out of my course, and not to be bound for her att all, except it be for the 100%. upon necessity, and only for 6 moneths. I should be glad to see her out of debt and suits; and, if she will be advised by me, I hope to sett her free shortly. She is now desyrous to take your sister Joyce, because I tell her that, in my opinion, she is likest you of any of your sisters; she had farr rather have her than my sister Mary, who, p'haps, cannot be so very well spared at Harrogate. But she would have Joyce to be awhile with you before, both for a triall, and whether she will be fitt to look to her housekeeping or no, and for fashonninge her against her coming hither: I pray you write so much to my father. Sweete heart, I thinke I shall want some more money, for I have laid downe this tearme more for other men than myself; playinge the solicitor and factor for them. I pray you, therefore, sende me more by Hall at his next comminge. My boyes shoes are bespoken, but I know not whether they be ready now. My paper hath almost persuaded me to ende on the other side; but, not givinge me leave to subscribe my name, since I must turne over, I will entertaine myself a little longer with writing to you. Sir John Smith

was sworne a Privye Councillor on Weddensday last. New Lords are made: Lo. Denny^k E. of Norwich, V. Wallingford Earle of Banbury^l, now longe since; and lately, Sir Nicholas Tufton, Lo. Tufton; Sir Thos. Savage V. Savage; Viscount Colchester Earle of Rivers; Sir Paule Banninge^m, Sir Baptist Hickesⁿ, and a Western knight^o, to be Barons. The Judges, they say, make difficulty to subscribe to the Royal Loane; though they have payed their money, yet they will not setto their names. Sir Randall Carew^p, the Chiefe Justice, is this day discharged of his place. I pray you remember my duety to my mother. God blesse my sweet boy, and sende us merrie meeting. Farwell, dearest love, &c.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, November 10, 1626.

104.

SWEETEST LOVE,

April 17th, 1627.

YOUR ant presseth me very much to sende for you; and howsoever to stay heare this Whitsontide. On the

^k Edward Lord Denny, created Earl of Norwich October 24, 2 Car.

^l A title which yet hangs in doubt from a contested filiation.

^m Sir Paul Bayning, created Baron Bayning, of Horkesley, February 27, 3 Car.

ⁿ Created Lord Hickes, of Ilmington, May 24, 4 Car.

^o John Lord Mohun, of Okehampton; co. Devon?

^p Sic. Orig. for Crew.

one side, beside her intreaty, a long journey, and a shortly stay at home, and the sparing of my horses, entice me to keepe heare; on the other, your company, and my boy's, and my friendes, though but a weeke, and the building of my studdy, and my unwillingnesse to begin a newe custom, are stronger motives to bringe me downe. It is in your power to determine the controversy, so as you doe what you doe freely, and not formally. My uncle, Henry Atkinson com'endes him to you, as doth Sir Robert Josseline, and many moe. I could wish your company here with all my hart. Here is pressing of souldiers here very much; they say the Duke himself will goe to sea^p. Tell my cosin Greenwood that Dr. Charles Twisden hath a wife of 53 yeares old now at child-birth. Remember my duety to my mother. God blesse the boy! Farewell, dearest hart.

Your lovinge husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, Apr. 17th, 1627.

105.

SWEET HEARTE,

April 27th, 1627.

I LEAFT behinde me a sheete of paper, where are written the names of diverse mannors and townes, where

^p Which he did, to his own disgrace, and that of the Nation; for this was the expedition to the Isle of Rhe.

Sir Thos. hath landes^q: it was a great while in your closet uppo' the table, and is there still, unlese I locked it in my cupboard where my bookes are, or carried it downe into the parlour. I pray you looke for it, and sende it me as soone as you canne. I now wish with all my hearte I had you here; for tho neither I nor any other refusers of the loane^r shall be imprisoned (save those already committed), yett we shall be tyed to atende 3 dayes a weeke at the Councill Boarde, which will be much better in some respect. We shall be at our owne lodgings and dyet, and be at libertye the other 4 dayes. I believe Sir Thos. Wentworth will come uppe shortly, p'haps my Lady with him (but that's more than I know): if she doe, I would have you to come with her, and your sonne too, if you thinke so fitt; but his comminge or stay I refer wholly to you. My duty and love, &c. &c.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

London, April 27th, 1627.

^q It was at this time that he seems to have been first entrusted with Sir Thomas Wentworth's affairs.

^r As a political man Radcliffe, like his master Wentworth, first appears in the light of a Patriot. He resisted the forced loan of 1627, and was imprisoned for his integrity in the Marshalsea—a circumstance which throws great lustre on his sufferings in later life for the Crown.

SWEETE HEARTE, *St. George's Day, 1627.*

I PRAY you sende me my testament and prayer-book, it is a thin booke as broad as your bible, and I usually carry it abroad with me. I shall scarce come downe this vacation, for we shall be all appointed (in likelyhood) to attende the Councill Boarde when they sitt, which bringes a restraint, yett is one of the easieste kinde; for, savinge that we wait there 2 or 3 afternones a week, otherwise we are at our owne disposition; and they say there are 200 more in the same case. All are well here, God be thanked. God sende you your health, and that we may have mery meetinge, and soone. For my parte, though I will not willinglye give waye to what I disapprove of in my judgment, yet, when my opposition appeares that it can doe noe good, I resolve not to stande out longer than is fitt, nor thereby hazard myne owne undoeing. My answer, therefore, whensoever I am called, shall not be so peremptory, but that I shall leave way to myselfe to come of when I see cause for. The meane tyme let nothinge trouble you, for I cannot be better pleased for my owne part with any other condition than this I am in. God blesse my boy! To heare that you are in health and mirth, is the welcomest newes that can be tould to

St. George's Day, 1627.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

107.

SWEET HEARTE,

April 30th, 1627.

I COULD have wished to have had the opportunity of writinge to you before this, that you might have understood immediately from myself how the world goes here with us, but I had none to send by but my Lord Clare's man, who was in such haste as I had scarce tyme to write fully unto Sir Thomas Wentworth; and therefore was enforced to entreat Sir Tho. to send you word by Charles Greenwood. Accordinge to my expectation I am now committed to prison, which the lesse troubles me, because it was expected; and, in trueth, although restraint of libertye be a thing which naturally all avoid, yet in this restraint, I thank God, I enjoy as much contentment as ever I did in my life, never more comforth of my friends, nay, never so much as at this time, never more joy than at this tyme^s: my health is as well as ever. And here we have exceeding good company, pleasant and sweet walkes, and every kind usage, beyond expectation in a prison^s. There is nothinge a wanting but your company, which I should take a course for shortly, but that I persuaide myself we shall not

^s Surely never was so pleasant a picture of a prison. The tranquillity and cheerfulness of the writer's mind, under a restraint which he knew to be illegal, are admirable.

be here longe, and therefore I shall spare your trouble in comminge uppe, and hope myself to come to you. My chief desire is, that you and my mother may be truely informed how I am, how well I am, and then I hope the newes of my restraint will not trouble you more than the restraint itself doth me, wherein there is no other cause of grief, but only the feare of your grief, through misapprehension of my condition. I did and do much please myself to think with what moderation and discretion you diswaded me fro' refusing to lend, with what modesty and respect you did desist after you once p'ceived my resolution. Assure yourselfe, that howsoever my indiscretion makes me subject to error, yett in the maine, by God's assistance, I shall doe nothinge that shall be either grosseley offensive or prejudiciall; and I knowe you are persuaded that this sufferinge (if it deserve the name of sufferinge) will in the ende turne to my good. Remember my duety to my mother, and desire her blessinge for me; and I pray you p'swade her not to be discomfitted by the report of my imprisonment, but rather to expect shortly to hear of my enlargement, which I hope will be bothe decent and speedy; for I had rather stay longer, than come off with dishonour; but, in probability, I shall be put to neither. God bless my sweet boy! Present my service to the Lady and Sir Will^m Savile, and commende me to all my friends. Farewell, dearest love, and lett me

Good Cosine. I chanced to open this letter by a mistake
 occasioned throu that w^h ^{was} writt as you may
^{see} on the outside, and finding itt contained
 noe matter of hast I have kept itt by me all this
 while, till with my owne pen I might excuse itt.
 Since you have hearde of your husbands commit-
 ments, upon w^h occasion if I weare not confidens
 of your discrecion to discern behav^r true and
 seeming dangers, I might spend sum time, in
 going about to comfort you but I will not wrong
 you we much as once to name him att this
 time, more then in this sort, that I shall much
 wyne wth you to pray to God to send him his
 healthe, and well att Oudthorpe againe, w^h
 I must w^{ill}be in a few moneths att the farther
 in the meane time hear is sum occasion to ex-
 ercise your patience I confesse, yet I hear the

God you may never have greater care and then I shall not justify you
 much. But blessing and mine to your boy and w^h I w^{ill} rest.
 Your most affectionate and tender
 Son and frende. Thomas Radcliffe
 Jan^y 1. 1627.

To my very kinde and much
 respected Cosine M^{rs} Anne
 Radcliffe.

heare of your health and comforth, than which no message
can come more welcome to your affectionate husbonde

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marchelsea, April 30th, 1627.

Lett my studdy be flagged with stone.

*To his deare and lovinge wife, Mrs. Anne Radcliffe, at Over-
thorpe in Thornhill, these be delivered.*

GOOD COSINE,

May 1st, 1627.

I chaunced to open this letter by a mistake, occasioned thorow that which was writt, as you may see, on the outside; and finding it contained noe matter of hast, I have kept it by me all this while, till with my owne pen I might excuse itt. Since, you have heard of your husband's commitment; upon which occasion, if I were not confident of your discretion to discern between true and seeming dangers, I might spend some tyme in going about to comfortt you; but I will not wrong you so much as once to mention him att this time, more than in this sort, that I shall onely joyne with you to pray to God to sende him his health, and well at Overthorpe againe, which I trust will be in a few moneths at the farthest. In the meane time is sum occasion to exercise your

patience. I confesse that I beseeche God you may never have greater cause, and then I shall not pittie you much. God's blessing and mine to your boy. I rest your ever most affectionate and assured cosin and friende,

TH. WENTWORTH^a.

Gawthorp, 1st May, 1627.

To my very kinde and much respected cosin,

Mrs. Ann Radcliffe.

SWEET LOVE,

May 5th, 1627.

I may not let slip this opportun^y to salute you, and let you know how I am: I thank G. I was never better in my life. It is generally reported that we shall be sett at libertye uppo' the Duke's goinge to sea, which is appointed to be on Thursday the 17th of this moneth; but the more likely newes is, that we shall be confined in the countrye; but where, God knowes: I hope for myself either Gloucestershire or Kent, neither of which can come amisse to me. Therefore let me intreat you that you prepare yourself to come to me

^a Sir Thomas Wentworth, afterwards Earl of Strafford, and George Radcliffe, Esq. afterwards Sir George, were sent for by messengers, and removed out of the county of York into the county of Kent, and there secured by confinement. Rushworth, vol. I. p 428. Many of those gentlemen committed to several prisons—some to the Marshalsea, &c. ib. ib.

when I shall sende for you, and to bringe my boy with you if you canne. Thinke in the means tyme how you may most conveniently dispose of your servants, so you may have those with you which are necessary and useful, and the rest that you may take againe at your retourne. My duety to my mother, service to my Lady Savile, with the rest there. My love to all my good friendes besides. God blesse the lad, and sende us merrye meetinge, which I hope will be ere longe, either I cominge to you, or you to me, &c. &c.

Your very lovinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marshalseas, May 5th, 1627.

110.

DEARE LOVE,

May 7th, 1627.

It is true your aunt was very earnest to have you to come uppe to London, and had provided lodgings for you and for Tom. And in respect of what I imagined might be and nowe is come to passe (I meane my imprisonment), I did as much desire it myself; but when I writ the 1^{re} you mention in your last it was not unprobable that I should have come downe this Whitsontyde; for had not this prosecution of the

Loane bene sharpened by our great countryman^x, I thinke a calmer course had beene taken than now is, and then I had escaped as well as sundry more of my ranke have done. But your aunt hath a great deale of businesse in Kent, which she would have me to oversee, and it will require a weekes worke to doe; so as had I been at libertye I must have gone thither either nowe or after the next tearme, which I would have done according as you had thought fitt and desired. Now, as thinges are fallen out, it is out of my choice, for here must I stay for a while, and, I thanke God, I stay with as much willingness and pleasure as if it were at Overthorpe; I never suffered anythinge with more inward satisfaction in my life. The Clerkes of Councill have order to name fitt places in several cuntryes for our confinement; but nothinge is yett done that I can learne. Your aunt makes all the meanes she can that I may be appointed to Sutton: what the event will be God knowes; I shall from tyme to tyme send to you. But yett it is reported that when the last payment is come in, which will be this weeke, and that the Duke is ready for his journey, we shall then be at liberty. As God shall dispose, all will be right. I am not very confident of any of this, yett

^x I suspect the person here meant to be John Lord Savile, the hereditary enemy of the Wentworths, whom Strafford in one of his Letters contemptuously styles "Old Howley." He was appointed Comptroller of the Household about this time, died in 1630, and was interred at Batley.

in probability we shall not stay here longe. Farwell, deare heart.

Your assured loving husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marshalseas, May 7th, 1627.

111.

SWEET HEART,

May 8th, 1627.

I pray you sende me the new suit of clothes, doublet, coate, and breeches, which you gave me, and my stuffe cloake of Philip and ; and lett Williamson sende me a paire of blacke bootes. Dispose of your family as well as you canne against the tyme I shall sende for you, which I believe wilbe shortlye; and livinge here I would not willinglye kepe a house in the country. But how will my be looked unto? Your stay here will be likely to be 7 or 8 moneths, and then I hope to eat a X'tmas pye at Overthorpe; therefore dispose of your thinges that you be not unprovided when you come downe. If there be a Parliament before, we may be released sooner; but that is uncertayne, though it begin to be talked of. I have borrowed 20*l*. of Sir Thos. Wentworth's money, which will furnish me with all thinges needful, and

to spare, untill I be at libertye. Farwel, dearest love. Blesse the boy.

Your affectionate husbände,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

May 8, 1627, Marshalseas.

SWEET HEART,

May 9th, 1627.

My continuall writinges give me an opportunity of messengers to sende to you; and my being freed of wandering abroad affords me more leysure to write; and the writinge to you of all employments pleaseth me the best. I am in great question in myself whether I should intreat you to come to me or not now. I do infinitely desire your company, and to have my boy too; but, if I should be shortly discharged, I shall putt you to a great trouble in com'ing up, leaving your house at home, and returninge back; and the newes now is, that we shall shortlye be discharged, which for my part I cannot believe. But what to do with the boy troubles me: use your own discretion. I shall be much joyed to see you. I am loath to take the lad from my mother, and I am loath you should be without him. My mother's grief at my imprisonment most troubles me of any thinge; I know it will give her more uppo' this occasion to part with my boy. God for-

bid that I should bringe her age with sorrow to the grave. I referre all to yourself, beseeching God to blesse and direct us all. Farwell, deare hart.

Your lovinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marshalseas, May 9th, 1627.

SWEET HEART,

May 11th, 1627.

I PRAY you sende this speedily to my cousin Wandesforde. We heare dayly variety of newes, and scarce any true. The resolution of our confinement held stronge for awhile, but now there is no talk of it. The last intelligence we had was of liberty, which we should shortly have, with a proclamation against us. Here are very pretty sweet houses towards the side of the field where we walk; I will see if I can take one of them: 5*l.* rent. Mr. Elmes, a fellow p'soner, a man of 5000 a year, and a great housekeeper in the country, lives here, his wife, 2 maids, and too men, for lesse than 20 shillings a week, for meate, drinke, bread, and fire. I like his course so well, that it were worth thinking of even if I were out of prison. But if I could gett you conveniently lodged here, I should be at lesse charges to keepe you, myself, and 4 people, than now I pay for the dyet of myself and

my man. Remember my duety to my mother, and desire her
blessinge. God blesse my sweete boy. Farwell, deare Nan.

Your affectionate husband,

⁊ May 11th, 1627. GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

114.

SWEET HEART,

May 19th, 1627.

I THANK you for your letter, and for the free
delivery of your opinion therein. I shall assume to myself
the like libertye in signifyinge hereby unto you what I thinke
of the matter you write of. It is very true my resolution al-
wayes was rather to yeild by compulsion, than to stand out to
the prejudice of my estate or course in profession. I alwayes
tould you so, neither is my minde altered from it, if nothinge
else had come betweene; but now, when it shall be thought
that I shall p'dice the public cause, beginning to conforme,
which none yet hath done (of all that have been committed),
except two poor men (a butcher and another), and they
hooted at like owles amongste their neighbours. This, me-
thinkes, deserves some consideration. Besides, I cannot be
altogether of your minde, that my continuing in a course of
standing out must needs ruine my estate, in respect of the

⁊ The place from which this letter was written is not mentioned; it
seems, however, to have been a country village, and, even in those days
of plenty, remarkable for its cheapness.

expences I shal be, and am here enforced upon; for 100%.^z will plentifully keepe me here a yeare, if this storme should last so long, which, admitted I should borrow and sell land to repay it, would be no very great lessening of my estates and yearly revenue, but farr fro' the utter ruine of my estate; nay, perhaps it may so fall out (which yett I am unwilling to speak of), but it may so fall out, as that this p'sent losse and hindrance may turne in the way of profit to be some advantage^a unto me, which, duely considered, may not be improbable, to those that have observed the experience in like cases in former tymes. For displeasure of some great men I shall be loath to deserve it myself; but if I cannot avoid it, I hope I shall learne to feare God, and not man—to trust in God, and not in men. For dissolving of my family I shall wholly trust it to your discretion; doe as you shall see cause: but I do very much desire your company here. I never knew you desire anything so earnestly of me as you doe now that I would use meanes to come out; you presse your owne and Tom's interest both, whiche I do professe they doe and shal move me much (howsoever you make the ground to be the feare of my undoing, whereas, I conceive, you have rather cause to think the direct contrary) for your owne interest. I can say this, you never pleased me better in your life than in the encouragement you

^z It is difficult to conceive how he should spend so much. See the former letter.

^a A mode of reasoning well understood by opposition lawyers at present.

gave me by your last le're. And for Thom, God bless him, and send him his grace: I had rather leave him a small estate, than more, with an hereditary stain or disgrace. God hath blessed us at Overthorpe with many comforths; and I hope in his mercy he will continue them. But they would scarce be comfortable if they should be hurt either with an unquiet minde, or with public infamy and shame, which every honest man will and must respect, and take care to avoid; yea, and every wise man too, that hath such a profession as I have^b. For my conformynge before the next terme, I resolve, by God's grace, absolutely that I will not; nor, as thus advised, till the terme be done: after that I will do whatsoever I may to give you satisfaction, provided it may be done decently, and so as that I neither wrong myself in my good name, nor, having offended one sort by refusing, I lose not the other also by conforming. For our confining, it is at an ende, as I thinke it was much debated yesterday at the Council Board; and there, as I heare, resolved not to be. I heare, this day (May 20) since I writte this le're, of comminge to our own houses, and being confined there: we shall know more after Wednesday next. I desired, and still do desire much, to heare that my mother takes my imprisonment chearfully; I thanke God it is no trouble to me, I wish it may be none to my friends. Neither

^b Wise and noble sentiments, such as were sure to lead to honour, and to preserve it unstained! I do not know whether the Gentleman or the Christian is more conspicuous in this passage.

is it hitherto chargeable; for though I am (in respect of my practice) removed out of the way, yett both my acquaintance and strangers come to me freely, so as I have since I came hither gotten as much as I spent in this house. Remember my duety to my mother, and desire her to give me her blessinge. God blesse my boy! Comforth yourself, sweet heart; and assure yourself, that I shall neither forget you nor him, or my estate, or my profession, or my friends about home; but that I will satisfy your request in due tyme, so farre as discretion and due respect of all circumstances and consequences shall afford convenient opportunity. Farewell, deare love; and when you can, with convenience, I wish I may see you.

Your affectionate husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marshalsea, Maii 19, 1627.

Your aunt will provide for your entertainment with her.

*To my right deare and lovinge wife, Mrs. Anne Radcliffe,
at Overthorpe, in Thornhill, these be delivered.*

115.

DEARE LOVE,

May 24th, 1627.

I HAVE written unto you so fully before, that I shall have the lesse to add now; onely concerninge your comminge uppe, and the disposing your houshold, it is fitt I should lett

you know my opinion, although I may not trust a letter so farre as to write my mynde so plainly as I could tell it you. I take it as a ground that there will be a parliament in Michaelmas next, whereupon it will follow then we shall be delivered all of us by Allhallowtyde. If I should continue in prison so longe, it will cost me, beside the 20*l.* which I have borrowed of Sir Thos. Wentworth, 30*l.* more; and so much will defray all expences, accordinge to the p'portion I now live in. If we be delivered before, either uppo' the Duke's goinge, which I doubt, or, which is more probable, when the last dayes of payment of this Loane are past, or uppo' the Duke's returne, if his expedition prove successfull, or uppo' the summons for a parliament: in all these cases there will be so much saved, as the tyme of our restraint will be shorter. But on the other side, if I conforme, it will be neare Midsomer before there be a fitt tyme for it; and, after that, your aunt's^c occasions, which I may not omitte (in respect of her great care and kindness to me since my imprisonment), will require my stay in^d Kent about a week; soe the soonest tyme I can come downe will be in the beginninge of July; all which considered, I doe thinke fitt that you doe not dissolve your houshoulde. But I next desire, that, if you can with any conveniency, you can dispose of your family that I may see you here. You might live with your aunt, and

^c The Countess of Leicester.

^d I suppose at Penshurst.

come here by water when you will; for my boy, doe as you think fitt, bringe him or leave him. Since I writte, a friend of myne, the Kinge's servant, that never failed me, hath sente me worde he can gett me leave to go to Sutton for a moneth or 6 weeks, and bids me doubt it not; which is a thinge I will accept and labour for. I desire to knowe that my kilne goes forward, and my study: how my piggeons doe. I have sent the boy 2 toppes and a scoarge sticke, hopinge he can say his letters by this tyme. Sweet heart, there is nothinge (but the apprehension of your discontent, and feare of my mother's grief) that is in my way to hinder me of the best and most contented days, in this condition I nowe am in, that ever I enjoyed; and were it not that Almightye God sendes some thinges to poyse and ballast our myndes in our joyes, I should be over-prided in my estate. Others may thinke and censure what they please, I have done hitherto what I thought fitt to be done; and I never begunne nor continued any action in my life with more courage or constancye. I know it is farr from your intentions to do any thinge that shall either lessen or interrupt my contentment; and I assure myself that your vertue is such, that after some tyme you will be able to recollect your spirits, to comforth yourself in God, and to take that with patience, at least, which I entertaine with gratulation and thankefullnesse. Present my duety and service where they

are oweing. Desire my mother's blessinge for me. God
blesse my boy! Farewell, deare love.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Marshalsea, May 24th, 1627.

SWEET HEART,

Junii 8th, 1627.

I AM arrear unto you for many letteres (5 at
fewest), which I have received since I writ unto you; and
havige longe wanted the conveniency of a messenger, I now
have one offered me on a suddain, and at this tyme, when I
have scarce leysure to write. It is the latter ende of the
terme, and I am now full of company and business. I hope
to see you the next moneth at Overthorpe; if I stay longer it
shall be upon very good groundes, so farre as my judgement
shall leade me. In the meane tyme I could have wished you
here, both for your company and for my Lady Leycester's
satisfaction. This weeke I have beene aguish 3 dayes, which
I hope now is past, for to-day I find myselfe well, I thank
God; and hitherto I have had my health very well here, ex-
cept sometymes litle fitts of head-ach. I am persuaded that
our busines drawes towards a conclusion; but what the ende
will be, or how soone, is yett to us uncertaine. Remember my

duety to my mother. I shall write more fully by the next at better leysure. God blesse my boy ! Farewell, sweet heart.

Your affectionate husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Marshallseas, Junii 8th, 1627.

117.

SWEET HEART,

June 14th, 1627.

I HAVE here 7 of your letteres, whereof I have as yett answered none all this terme. I have met with many commers hither, but with none that went back. My brother Hodgson is the first, and he is now in hast too ; yet I shall desire his patience a litle, till I have written some answere to all your letteres. I heare of your health by my cosin John Savile, and of my mother's, which I am very glad of, and pray God to continue it to you all. For my beinge sent away, I cannot tell what to thinke of it ; itt hath bene off and on many tymes ; now it is as hott as ever it was. If I goe to your aunt's, I shall save charges, and finde meanes to write to you by every carrier ; but that seemes to bee altered, and that wee shall onely goe here hard by in Surrey, where yett wee shall live better cheape than here. But for my part I like not confinement, because that commonly is for a longe tyme, and then it will be a great hindrance to my affaires, which makes me thinke of some other course to free myselfe, if I canne,

whereof you shall heare more the next weeke, if all thinges light right. It is best for my profitt, doubtlesse, that you stay at home till my buildinges be dispatcht; though otherwise I could heartily have wished for your company here. My Mother (as I perceive) will be very loath to part with Tom, and you unwilling to leave him. I am wonderful loath to take him from my mother, least that might bringe too great a grief uppon her now in her age. On the other side both you will be continually thinkinge of him when you are here, and he will be spoiled unlesse somebody looke to him that can maister him. The journey thus farre will be very longe for him. I must confesse I knowe not what to doe: my Mother's affection toward him moves me most; but doe what you think fittest. I hope that you doe not thinke that you neede excuse the length of your letters, for then must I write shorter: but lett them be longe enough, whatsoever you write of, to fille upp withal. I gott my charges this terme, I thanke God; so as yett I have money enough. If you would have any thinge bought for you, it shall be done. I cannot blame your desire to have me at liberty, nor your care of my estate. I shall, God willinge, take such course as shall be fittinge, after I shall better understand how the world is like to goe, and have taken the advice of my best friends. The next week, in all probability, I shall resolve on somethinge; and it is in the meane tyme a very great contentment to me to see you prepared and willinge to apply yourselfe to such courses as shall

be fittest for me to take. On Saturday next I looke for Sir Thomas^e; by his and my cosin Wandesford's meanes I shall understand whether there will be like to be an end of this busines shortly; if yea, then I will waite awhile; but, if the Kinge be resolved to goe on and see the uttermost, then I stricke sail, and submitte. It will be best for you to come with my Lady, iff you be putt to it by my stay here: I heare she comes in July, if Sir Thomas be not discharged before. I am very glad to heare that my studdy is finished; you doe soe commend the roome that I now beginne to desire to see it. I shall send Thom a couple of new scourge stickes: I am very glad to heare that he is so full of mettle and stirringe; God in heaven blesse him, and make him his servant! Sweet heart, I doubt not but all thinges will be well; and howsoever it pleases God to mixe our comforts with some crosses for our humiliation, yet, doubtlesse, the issue will be for our greater benefitt: these thinges will not last longe. My cosin Wandesford hath taken a lodginge here hard by me, so I have his company almost continually, when others doe not interrupt us. But my brother^f must be gone, and thinkes I stay him too longe; therefore I must make an ende, though I could willingly spend whole dayes in writinge to you. The next

^e i. e. Wentworth.

^f Mr. Hodgson, of Beeston, near Leeds, who is mentioned in the beginning of the letter.

weeke I hope to give you a full resolution. Remember me to
all my good friends. Farewell, deare heart.

Your assured lovinge husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Marshallsea, June 14th, 1627.

GOOD MOTHER,

July 6th, 1627.

It is very great contentment to me to understande
that you are so well satisfied in my restraint; your grieve
would have been farre more troublesome unto me than any
inconvenience I have yett founde in imprisonment. For my
part, I doe not apprehend any thinge either in what I suffer,
or the cause for which I suffer, that ought justly to afflict
either me or my friends; and my hope is, that these thinges
will come to a conclusion in such convenient time, as that I
shall have the meanes to see you ere long. I desire to be
remembered to my brothers and sisters, and all theirs. Thus
with my humble duety unto yourself, desiringe your blessinge,
I take my leave.

Your lovinge and obedient sonne,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Marshalseas, July 6th, 1627.

SWEET HEART,

May 18th, 1628.

I WRITT to you by Mr. Austin, but he was so hasty as he went away hence ere I could gett my letter to him. My purpose was to have been at Sutton on Weddensday night; but our great businesse came to an issue and great debate on Thursday, and we were all then to attende. This day I cannot well come, and p'haps, as you now are, it will not be so convenient; but the next week (as I feare I can scarce come to you) if you will come hither for a night or 2, I shall have a chamber ready at an hour's warninge. Come when you will, the sooner the better. My Lady Arbella^g hath been very ill this weeke. We are now agreeinge or breakinge with the Lords^h about our petition, and shall see this day what we

^g Arabella, daughter of John Earl of Clare, and second wife of Sir Thomas Wentworth.

^h Radcliffe and his friend Wandesford were both brought into this Parliament, probably by Wentworth's interest, but for what counties or boroughs I do not know. Rushworth, vol. I. from p. 500 to 606, has preserved several speeches of Wentworth, and two or three of Wandesford, but none of Radcliffe. The following passage, in a speech of Wandesford, within a few days of this time, will explain the expression of agreeing or breaking with the Lords: "Two ways are propounded, to go to the Lords, or to the King: I think it is fit we do go to the King." *Ib.* p. 607.

may hope for from them; and then to the Kinge shall we address ourselves, and hope for a gracious answere. I satisfied your brother's letter about a week since. My service to my Lady and your gentlewomen. God blesse my boy! Farwell, good Nan.

Your truely loveinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, May 18th, 1628.

To &c. &c. at Sutton, at Stone, give.

120.

SWEET HEART,

May 24th, 1628.

MISSINGE Alexander Hodden, I was forced to sende Pudsey, because my Lord of Leycester presseth much to have the conveyance of my Lady's joynture pleaded, which otherwise his servants say will be a great p'judice to the tenants of Itchington; therefore I pray you let me know my Lady's pleasure therein. The Parliament was almost hopeless for any good succes last week; but now it begins to piece againe, and I p'suade myself we shall have a good conclusion. Here is some ill newes of my Lo. of Denbigh's voyage to Rochel, but we know not the particulars of it. I desire to know whether my Lady will come to London this tearme or noe. If we hitt well to-morrow, we shall be like to sitt yet a good while, as I conjecture. Present my service to my Lady and

her gentlewomen. God blesse the boy! Lady Arabella is not well; she beginnes this weeke to take physicke.

Your affectionate husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Graye's Inne, May 24th, 1628.

121.

SWEET HEARTE,

May 25th, 1628.

I THANKE you for your letter, and should have bene glad to see you at Baynard's Castle. Since I was of the Parliament I have not bene absente fro' Westminster forenoone nor afternooneⁱ, but this afternoone; so as I have had no leysure at all to doe any thinge. I have sent my younge maister a toppe, which he writt for; his velvet booke is not yet ready. Here is inclosed a le're and 10 shillinges fro' my Lady Middleton, with remembrance of her love. We looke dayly now when the Parliament will ende, either to make a session and adjourne till Michaelmas, or, which is more to be feared, to breake and doe nothinge. God kepe and direct us! for if we breake we must expect dangerous tymes^k.

ⁱ It was a busy and angry session; the ill humour of which was greatly sharpened by the illegal commitments on account of the forced loan.

^k This expression shews that wise men even then anticipated the troubles which were to follow. Happy would it have been for the nation and themselves, had Charles and his Ministers been endued with the same foresight!

Sir Francis Barnham sayeth, that my Lady, in beinge absent fro' London, will discontinue her claime to her lodgings; whereupon I asked Sir Thomas Morgan, if any body had moved for them; and he sayeth that none hath moved, nor shall have them. I know not how sone I shall come to Sutton, but I believe it will be Whitsontide. All here are well; and yett we should be much better, if we had but some good hopes of a happy conclusion of this Parliament. Remember my service to all with you. God blesse my boy! Farwell, &c. &c.

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, May 25th, 1628.

122.

DEAREST LOVE,

Oct. 18th, 1628.

THIS night I waited on my Lord W.¹ hither, where we finde all well, except my cosin Katherine, who is not yet perfectly recouered out of the squinancy, though past all danger. She had a fever with it, which is gone away. Her speech is low and troublesome to her, and they feare that she will scarce recover her voyce; but I hope well, because, as I tell them, it is seldome seene that any woman wants her tonge. You had writ to my sister Joyce, that you hoped to see

¹ Sir Thomas Wentworth, now become a convert to the Court Interest, was created Baron Wentworth July 22d, in this year.

my Lady in Yorkshire, and coulde not well tell how to be without her, or to that purpose; the lettere was shewed my Lady, which she tooke extraordinarily kindly, callinge severall tymes for your lettere to be read to her. Her expences here since my goinge away, especially duringe my cosine Kate's sicknes, are not to be endured; and yett I know not how she may be furnisht for a longe journey. The benefice which you wott on is promised againe by y^e Patron; there only rests how to give the present Vicar satisfaction to procure him to resigne: the Clerke shall have his place upon very easy termes. Sweet heart, I longe now to heare from you, that you have your health, that my boy is well, if he have any more biles. On Munday morning I am for London, where I shall thinke the time longe till the terme ende, when I shall come downe in my Lord's company, for so he sayeth, and meet you and my boy at Woodhous, if my Lady be retturned frem Haughton. All your friends salute you, especially

Your truely lovinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Sutton, 8bris 18, 1628.

125.

SWEET HEART,

Nov. 7, 1628.

I AM well, I thank God, and desire to heare of you the like. Methinkes it is longe since I received a le're

from you. Your man Michael is here in London, newly returned fro' Denmarke, where he hath bene a souldier; and now he desires to serve you againe. If you will have me take him againe, I will; send me word therefore what I shall doe in it. Here are many rumors, but no certaine newes, from Rochell. The Kinges of France and Spaine are fallen out, they have made stay of shippes, and called home ambassadors on both sides: I believe we shall have peace with Spaine. Our busines hath heates and colds; yett now I hope six or seven dayes will determine it one way or other. I am put in hope of some good reward for my service at Doncaster; which if it come, I shall give it entertainment and welcome. God blesse my sweete boy! Deare love, farewell.

Your truely lovinge husband,

GEORGE RATCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, 9bris 7, 1628.

124.

SWEET HEART,

Nov. 11th, 1628.

THIS day I have received two le'res from you: there came with them a le're from my cosin George Carre, which I feared had miscarried; I am glad it did not. Your le'res are alwayes welcome; these especially, because they are not short, and because I have longe looked to heare from you. I am heartily sorry for your paines in your head and backe;

and I could wish you here, both for mine owne sake and for yours; hopinge you might finde ease by my company, or by physicke. Almighty God send you health, which, I thanke God, I doe perfectly enjoy. I am glad to heare of my sister Marye's^m good happe, as I hope it is. God send her of my cosin a better husband than you have, which yett I am sure she cannot better deserve than you have done: much comfort may they both longe enjoy. If my cosin prove well, she may partly thanke you, whose carriage, when I was in prison,

^m Mary, daughter of Sir Francis Trappes, married Charles Towneley, of Towneley in Lancashire, Esq. who was killed at the battle of Marston Moor. During the engagement she was with her father at Knaresborough, where she heard of her husband's fate; and came upon the field the next morning in order to search for his body, while the attendants of the camp were stripping and burying the dead. Here she was accosted by a General Officer, to whom she told her melancholy story. He heard her with great tenderness; but earnestly desired her to leave a place, where, besides the distress of witnessing such a scene, she might probably be insulted. She complied; and he called a trooper, who took her *en croup*. On her way to Knaresborough she enquired of the man the name of the Officer to whose civility she had been indebted, and learned that it was Lieutenant-General Cromwell. She survived a widow till 1690, died at Towneley, and was interred in the family chapel at Burnley, aged 91.—This anecdote was told me by the present representative of the family, aged 78, to whom it was related by his ancestress, Ursula Towneley, a Fermor of Tusmore, and aunt to Pope's Belinda, who had it from the lady herself.

pleased the old man, his fatherⁿ, so well, as I am persuaded made him ever since desirous to match in your kindred. I am glad the boy keepes his health. God blesse him, and make him his servant! I will forthwith give order for his coach and his wax, for I may not loose his le'res for so small a matter. I marvaile at the chimney that it proves no better; I must teach my customer to make it voyd smoake, or else I will shew him a tricke of mine occupation. Is Harry Allen a man of y^e sword, or rather of the fistes? I had thought they would not have bene so familiar. I have your note for Heart, and I will examine the busines myselfe once over; I should thinke that he will not denye it to me, as he hath done to a better man than I am, but as tymes shall trye. There is one busines entertaines the most of my tyme all this terme, I mind little else: the last weeke I thought it little better than desperate; now I thinke it will be perfected very shortly, for I can scarce see where it can sticke; yett such is the course of thinges since I knew any thinge, as methinkes I should suffer my judgement to be transported with too much confidence, if I doe not still look for some rubs and pauses before all be as I

ⁿ Richard Towneley, of Towneley, Esq. who died in London this year, and was buried in St. Clement's Church in the Strand. He married Jane Assheton, of Lever, whose mother was widow of Edward Radcliffe, of Todmorden, Esq. It was through this match that the writer became related to the Towneleys.

could wish it. Some of our shippes are come from Rochell, others not heard of. The towne is taken by the Kinge of France; and for theire libertyes and estates, they must pay 400,000 crowns, build a citadell, maintaine a gùarison in the towne, and exersise theire religion without the towne: termes of extremity to the poore men! Sweet heart, I am loth to leave off writinge to you, though I know not whether I can send this le're, yett it shall be ready, expectinge a messenger. If any thinge else happen I shall adde that, hopinge that my le'res to you are as yours to me; that is, the longer the better. For this tyme, good night, sweet love.

Your truely lovinge husband,

Nov. 11, 1628.

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

123.

UNCLE,

October 28th, 1628.

The Recordship of Doncaster is newly fallen void by the death of Sir John Jackson; it is a place worth the havinge, if it might be procured without too much troubling of my friendes. I know not how your acquaintance lies there; but I desire, if you have the meanes with any conveniency, to labor with your friends to put of the election untill the ende of the terme. I perswade myself I could procure letters fro' my Lord Darcy and Justice Hutton, if he have not written for some other; if he have, to take him off, and make him indifferent. Yourselfe is able to worke my Lo. Aire and Sir

Robert Swift; and if Sir Thos. Wentworth, or any other gentleman nere thereabout, may stand in stead, I shall see what will be done. There is another Recordership likewise void uppo' the same occasion, which is Pontefract, wherein your friendes may stande me in sted; I would neglect neither, hoping that if the one slip, the other may hold; but Doncaster is better. I doe in both commende myselfe to your care and paines, in both which I doubt not to faile; onely be pleased to sende speedily about it.

Your nephew to commaunde,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, October 28th, 1628.

*To my lovinge uncle, Mr. Henry Leadbetter,
at Thriburgh, these be delivered.*

126.

DEARE NAN,

November 12th, 1628.

I am very glad that you went to Haughton, but sorry that you had so ill way, and I believe your journey backwards was no better; and if youre paines in your head and backe were added to that, then had you an ill journey indeed. God send you your healthe, which I should be glad to heare of, but more glad to see. I had almost missed the opportunity of this messenger, my cosin Rookebey, for he sayd he would goe yesterday, and then I coulde not write, being busy about a patent or 2 to be made ready for the Kinge to signe

for a friend of myne, which I have not yet dispatched, nor shall have this 4 days. I have no newes to write, but I shal bringe some downe with me when I come, which now I hope will be very shortly, for all our business goes on well, and drawes to a happy conclusion, I thanke God. I am so well pleased that there is nothinge for the p'sent which I could wish otherwise than as it is, save onely myselfe, which I could wish were much better, were it but that you might have a better husband, and mere proportionable to your deserts. This letter, I suppose, will come to your handes about the 3d of November, and by that tyme I hope all my business will be dispatched, so as I may be ready to come downe, saveing that I must goe into Kent, and stay a day there. I would have some horses to come to Haughton to meet me, but I know not when to appoint them to be there; I hope by some that goes downe I may sende you worde. My uncle John was here, and I thinke that he is still in towne; he commendes him unto you. God blesse my sweet boy! Farwell, sweet heart and love.

Your truely loveing husbände,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, November 12th, 1628.

127.

SWEET HEARTE, *Nov. 21st, 1628.*

I HAVE nowe sent you some waxe^o by Hall, though I hope my comminge downe will p^vent your sealinge of many letters with it at this tyme. I must go to Sutton for a day or 2 after the tearme, to take my Lady's accounts; and wur^p busines will not let us come downe of some fewe dayes after the terme is ended, yett we are nowe goinge about the dispatch of it. I expect to be with you about the 13th of December. I have received about 16*l.* of Wm. Hall; and there is 20 more from Anthony Foxcroft, which they say I may have when I will. I have paid Hartall 6*l.* 15*s.* Tom's coate is makinge, but cannot be gott ready for Hall this journey. I shall wish my sister Mary a good day on Sunday next, for that I thinke is y^e day, though I doe but ghesse at it by your letter, because it is not dated. All your friendes are very well, and our busines goes on well. I longe to be with you, for it is a great while since I wanted your company thus longe; and methinkes it is much that I shall want it still 3 weekes

• Hence it appears that Sealing-wax, which may now be bought in every country bookseller's shop, could then only be obtained in London. Treacle was an article of equal rarity. But Yorkshire seems to have been at that time, like the Hebrides at present, "hugely unprovided" with the conveniences of life.

p The Yorkshire mode of pronouncing "our."

longer. The newes is, that y^e Dutchmen, Hollanders, have surprised the Spanish West India fleet, and have taken shippes, westerne hides, cuchenile, indico, silkes, and much silver, in all worth 1,200,000*l*. which is in plain letters twelve hundred thousand poundes. I am goinge to Westminster. Farewell, deare heart. God blesse my boy!

Your assured lovinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, November 21st, 1628.

128.

DEARE HEART,

Nov. 25th, 1628.

OUR businesse hath had a greater stay than ever, it was on Monday last putt out of all hope for any thinge that I could see; to as I thought we should presently have gone about to give it over, which was to quitt our handes; but nowe it is come on againe fairer than ever. If it now faile or stoppe (which yett methinkes it should accordinge to former proceedinges) the devil is in it, or the pope, I thinke. You shall here more by Hall, for by Friday I shall be able to give a better account, I thinke. God blesse my boy! God sende you your healthe, and us all good successe and merrie meeting! Farwell, sweet heart.

Your truly loving husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Grayes Inne, November 25th, 1628.

DEARE NAN,

Dec. 1st, 1628.

THE geese and pullets which you sent are received, and transmitted over to Sutton, whither I have promised my Lady to go myself; but I could yett gett no tyme since the terme, being wholly taken up with my Lord Viscount Wentworth's businesse; I call him Viscount Wentworth, for so he will be before Munday at night^a. All his matters are now ready, but not sealed, and they begin in the towne to call him Lord President of the North, but he is not so yett; God knowes what he may be by Saturday or Munday next. I hope we shall gett out of this towne homewards by Tuesday or Wednesday at furthest: Sir Arthur Ingram sends me two horses, and so I shall not post it now. By his means the man comes to the alehouse neare, and stays there in vain; but the matter is not great. I would gladly come to by this day sennight, but I feare it will be Saturday before we shall come thither, and come home on Munday or Tuesday after. God blesse my boy! I am glad he is well, and right glad to understand that you are better than you was. I gave my Lord thanks for the plaster which my Lady gott for you. God send your head well too! I will bring you a certaine medicine for that too. I have spoken for a house at Yorke for you, and I may have it if I will, the best house in the towne; the

^a The Patent bears date December 10.

rent will be 20*l.* a yeare^r; the owner proffers it unto me to lett or sell, as I will. I must doe him a feat, which I think I can doe, and will cost me nothinge. I am told a new way for the attorney's place^s, which if it hold will cost me nothing; but howsoever, one way or other, I shall be very likely to have it, for my Lo. is more eager of my beinge there than I myselfe am. My sweet lasse, I am very loathe to give over writinge; though all I have to write be nothinge, yet it is somethinge to me to write it. Farewell, my dearest love.

Your truly lovinge husband,

GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Thom's coate comes now to you, but I heare not of his slippers.

Grayes Inne, De. 1st, 1628.

130.

SWEET HEART,

Dec. 1st, 1628.

I had thought and hoped that by this tyme I should have been my owne carrier, and have presented myself to you for a token; but the slownesse of the dispatch of my businesse prolonges the tyme of my stay beyond all expectation. My Lord Wentworth, Sir Arthur Ingram, and myself, doe purpose to come downe together in a coche. Sir Arthur

^r 20*l.* *per annum* in 1628, the rent of the best house in York.

^s Then a very lucrative and honourable station, which Radcliffe lived to see abolished, together with the Court itself.

thinkes that we shall not sette forward out of this towne till the 15th of this moneth; I hope better than so, and that we shall gette dispatched wthn ten dayes; indeed I do not see what can staye us so longe, but that we have nothinge certaine here but uncertaintyes. There is a co'mon report that my Lord is a Viscounte, and Lord President of the North; for my part I cannot say so, though I wish it were so, neither would I have any of my friends to report it, but it is very confidently tould, and I wonder what ground there is for it. Some will say, privately, that my Lord of Sunderland^t hath resigned the Presidentship to the Kinge, and that the Kinge hath given him some satisfaction for it. This is all the newes that I heare: I longe to see you and my sweet boy, and to have an houres talk with you; but I must have patience for one fourtnight; yett at the leaste by St. Thomas eve, at furthest, have with you. In the meane time, farewell, my dearest Nan; and God blesse my boy!

Your assured lovinge husbnde,

Grayes Inne, 1st Dec. 1628. GEORGE RADCLIFFE.

Felton was tryed on Thursday last, and confessed all with much penitence and teares; he was hanged at Tyburn on Saturday, and yesterday sent in a coach to Portsmouth to be hanged in chaines.

^t Emmanuel Scroop, Earl of Sunderland, Baron Scroop of Bolton, constituted Lord President 16th Jac. died without issue, the last in the right line of that noble and ancient family.

1.^u

SIR,

UPON a seconde reading of your letter I finde my erre, reading that for a party which I now finde to be a party in the country: if Sir John^x will yeald it unto you, . . . will by . . . y^y consentt take itt as a right, not as a curtesye, soe as we may be left to take our remedye against the Maior^z, which the statute of H. the Sixth doth afford us in a very plentifull manner, and which undoubtedly shall not be let slippe.

Sir, I rest, your as afore,

TH. WENTW.^a

To my worthy friend, Sir Richard Beaumontt, Knighte.

^u I have, with one exception, departed from chronological order, for the purpose of exhibiting an unbroken series of Lord Strafford's Letters, none of which are to be found in the great collection of this Nobleman's Papers, published in 1739 by William Knowler, LL. D. Rector of Irthlingborough.

^x Qu. Sir John Jackson, or Sir John Savile?

^y My.

^z Qu. Mayor of Pontefract?

^a Seal: a griffin on a wreath, and an inscription.—Was not this letter written A. D. 1625 or 1626? See a letter of this Sir Ric. Beaumont's, vol. I. Strafford's Letters, A. D. 1625.

GENTLE MR. GEORGE,

4th May, 1625.

I PERCEIVE that the old Knight^b is strongly persuaded that all my nephew's freeholders in the nine townes will be for him. His grownde is, that I have altogether lost by finding of the office for the mannors in knight service, and soe bringe them wthin the preiudice of the same tenure. Not knowing therefore what thes suggestions might move with ignorant people, I thought good to give you notice hearof, and to desire you to give them satisfaction, that in truthe this neither can, nor ever was intended as any harme for them; and how carefull I ever was to give them all the strength and countenance that was in my power att all times, in all places, more, I protest, then of those that weare my owne. Lett Mr. Greenwood^c deale with them, and lett them to understand, that now they have an occasion to give me a testimony of their love, of such a nature as they are never like to have againe; and, this lett slippe and not really laid hold off, they lose the means of ever perswading me they can love or respect me.

^b Sir John Savile, of Howley, afterwards Lord Savile, between whose family and that of the Wentworths an hereditary enmity had long subsisted.

^c The Rector of Thornhill might have been better employed than in electioneering intrigues.

Lett ther be noe hower, noe opportunity, lett slippe; for I see plaine the old gallant and I joyne not.

Your very affectionate cosen and frende,

TH. WENTWORTH.

Ledstone^d, this 4th of May, 1625.

3.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

[No date.]

You told me of a petition preferred indeed against me by Pudsey, of Rigton, to Mr. Baron Denham^e, thes last Assises, wherein I conceive myself to be much wronged by his slanderous and false clamore, and doe therof desire to free myself before the Judge; whose good opinion I soe much respect, that I should be sorry any thing of that nature should stike with him (concerning me) unsatisfied. Therfore I intreat you to attend him with the presentt of my service, and to lett him know, that I heare of this underhande dealings of Pudsey, with an intent (if he were able) to lessen the good opinion which I hope ever to retaine with him; and that he

^d Sold by Lord Strafford's executors to Sir John Lewis, from whom it descended to his granddaughter, the incomparable Lady Elizabeth Hastings, who lived and died there.—Part of the house is said to have been built by Strafford.

^e A very learned Judge, yet not so much remembered at present for his own merits, as for the accident of having been father to Sir John Denham the Poet.

would be pleased to grantt me his warrant^f to bring Pudsey before him thes next Assises, to iustifie his complaint; to the end, if I be blamable, itt may be made appeare, and if Pudsey be proved false and caluminous in his petition, I may be righted, and he punished. If this be not granted me, I doe soe well understand the ill condition of Pudsey and my owne clearness to be such, that he will never appeare to make his complaint good whear I or any for me can be present to answere in my behalfe; soe shall a scandall rest upon me, a dishonest fellow scape uncontroled, and an open way traced forth how privately to lay an aspersion upon gentlemen uncontroled by misinformations, and untrue private reportes made to the Judges of Assise. In conclusion then I doe againe humbly intreate him, that I may have his warrantt to bring only Pudsey before him; that so he shall neither now draw his necke out of the halter, nor myself scape unreprehended, or the parties remaine wthout remedy, if I have in any wise wronged them. Farwell.

Your ever assured and affectionate frend and cosen,

TH. WENTWORTH.

To my very loving and much esteemed cosen,

George Radcliffe, Esquire.

^f This proposal, of attaching a man by a Judge's Warrant, for a mere calumny, is very characteristic of Strafford, who delighted in strong measures, without always reflecting how far the law would bear them out.

4.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

23 June, 1638.

THE letter directed to be made ready before you went will herewth be delivered; but it was at first soe drawen, as 130 was faine to cast that by, and subrogate this in the steade thereof. For my partt I am sure itt likes me and all the company much better then the other. When you have perused the duplicate, in any case shew my Lo. of Canterbury. I hasten this away, but wthin a few days you shall heare from me. The Chancelour hears not a worde as yet forth of England, soe as we are quiet. Howbeit the towne runge of your goyng by ten a cloke next morning. God send you all health and a safe returne, with this, that I must undoubtedly assure you, you can be no living man soe welcome, as to

Your ever most faithfull affectionate freind and cosin,

WENTWORTH.

Dublin, this 23d of June, 1638.

5.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

21 Sept. 1639.

WE are gott thus farre in good health, God be praysed! Ther is little I know as yet more then was soe to you before I came thence: still I find a great expectation is

drawn upon me^g, for which I am most sorry; and the nearer I cum to it, the more my heartte failes me; nor can I promise unto myself any good by this jurney. God's will be dun, and he accept (forth of his goodness) of thes desires of mine, which are always with him! My Lord Cheefe Justice holds itt necessary that it be certified thence from the Justices and Counsell, that the Chancelour's not as yett giving powers that the profitt of his office and lands, goods, and pension, should be sequestred, wthout which the Vice-treasourour hath no warrant to deposite them with Sir P. Davies, according to the order of the borde^h; therefore I pray you lett it be communicated with my Lords the Justices, and advertised over with all speed. The Chancelour movedⁱ, by the E. of Hollande, to kisse the King's hande; but it was expressly denied, but that he must rest wher he is till the Deputy be spoken with. Sir H. Bruse tells me much the like storrye to that the Bishop of Rapho related to me at the Naas; and that I am not to trust any of their countrimen. The only memorable thing is, that all is assented to the Scotche Parliament by Traquaire, proffessing

^g Wentworth had now been called home to command against the Scots an army unprovided of every thing, but most of all unprovided with courage, fidelity, and inclination to the service, in all which qualities it was now his own misfortune and torment to abound.

^h There is a deficiency in the construction of this sentence which I am unable to supply.

ⁱ Lord Chancellor Loftus, who, whatever his faults might be, had certainly been used with harshness by the Lord Lieutenant.

that his Ma^{ty} desired but the shadow, but would be content to quitt them the substance. Traquaire told them, moreover, that he was but ther as the agent of the Lo. Mar. Hamilton, who would have cum himself, but that he thought he might doe them more service wher he is, to see that his Ma^{ty} might not be diverted the whilst^k. How to understand this I know not for my part; I iudge it were *Indiam quærere Indis quoque ignotam*. Remember my service to the justices. Excuse me to my wife, and soe farewell.

Your most faithfull

Affectionate freind and cosin,

WENTWORTH.

St. Alban's, Satterday morning, the 21st,
as I take it, of Sept. 1639.

6.

[This letter indorsed "For yourselfe."]

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

23d September, 1639.

The particular hast of this dispatch is only to advertise you, that my Lord's Grace of Canterbury, having allready rep'sented to the King the examinations of Corbett

^k It appears that till this time Wentworth had never suspected the fidelity of Marquis Hamilton, whose duplicity and understanding with the Covenanters, are placed beyond a doubt by this passage. Both Traquair and he met with the fate of other trimmers, and were ruined by playing this double game of Patriotism and Loyalty.

transmitted hither, touching the Bishop of Killala¹, his Ma^{ty} thereupon was very sensible of that Bishop's apparent ill affections, as unworthily as unseasonably expressed, to y^e violation of those due regards a person of his eminency and place ought more especially (as the times now goe) to have preserved and payd to the peace and settlement of his affaires. And therefore commands that thereupon he be forthwith proceeded against, and deservedly avoyded out of his bishoprick, if it may be, which you will acquaint my cosin Waindesford wthall, and take p'sent course therein accordingly. Commend me to both the justices and my wife, and excuse my not writing till the next. Soe I rest

Your most faithfull affectionate freind and cosen,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 23d September, 1639.

¹ Under Strafford's administration the Bishops of Ireland were displaced with little more ceremony than Excisemen. The story here referred to was this:—One Corbet, a Scots Clergyman, had written a virulent and witty book against the Covenanters, called, if I recollect aright, *Lysimachus Theanor*, and for this service was rewarded with a benefice in the diocese of Killalla, the Bishop of which at that time was Adair, himself a Scotsman. When Corbet applied for institution, the Bishop, who could not endure any reflexions on his countrymen, received Corbet (whose name it seems in the Erse language signifies a Crow) very roughly; and told him, that "it was an ill crow which defiled its own nest." These words Corbet took care to report to Laud; and for this trivial offence the poor prelate, then an old man, was summarily deprived. He was, however, afterwards provided with another See.

7.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

28th Oct. 1639.

HAVING not tyme now to write myself, I must by another hand reco'mend one or two particulars unto you; the one is, that you will bestow some tyme to informe yourselfe how the accompt stands there in Ireland for the 999 $\frac{10}{100}$ due to my Lady the Countesse of Carlisle, for the customes, subsidies, imposts, &c. upon wyne, for the yeare 1635, and whether that money was not paid into the Excheq^r there; if it were soe, there must be some course presently taken for reimbursing it, being most iustly due to her La^p upon that express accompt. The other is, for giving some direction for 4000 $\frac{10}{100}$ of those moneys due to her La^p upon the said graunt, to be issued out of his Ma^{te} treasure there, and speedily made over hether for her La^{ps} use, that business being settled by me here, with his Ma^{te} gracious allowance for the whole some of 1600 $\frac{10}{100}$ to be reimbursed to the Crown by 2000 $\frac{10}{100}$ *per ann.* during the terme yet unexpired in the graunt: of both which I must intreate your accustomed care, which hath never failed.

Your most faithfull cosin and freind,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 28th of October, 1639.

P. S. Good George, be very carefull to retorne my Ladie's money, and rather than faile send it over in spetie. For warrant to Mr. Vice-treasourer, to issue it, pray you let him

knowe the letter is now drawing, and I will not faile to procure him a warrant and discharge to his liking. Wthin the three dayes I shall write fully to you of all things: in the meane time I must tell you, 186. 105. 27^h. 52^a. 163^{th 114}. quit herself 117. 120. 173. 101. 42. 33. 50. 15. 55. howbeit pressed very much 12. 88. 11. 167. 10. 97. 104. 174. 110. 82. 60. 33. 34. 107. 164. 106. 14. 59. 108. 65. 22. 23. 56. 49. 58. 18. what will you by that now. as for other matters. 186. 101. 57. 85. 79. 49. 56. 52. 37. 34. 90. 120. 83. 59. 33. 35. 10. 71. 76. 56. 19. 11. 13. 89. 130. 167. 9. 97. 8. 28. 67. 42. 55. 76. 101. 79. 66. 102. 58. 22. 21. 55. 15. 80. 7. 51. 34. 33. 109. 49. 57. 76. 67. 34. 74. 56. 20. 108. 53. 81. 10. 325. 130. 11. 9. 7.

8.

COSEN RATCLIFFE,

23^d Nov. 1639.

THESE two words apart are only in answere to that single clause in your last of the 5th of this moneth, touching my Lord of Valentia's motion of parting with his Marshall's place. What I now write concerning it to Mr. Vice-treasourour you will see by the inclosed. And I desire you to comply with my Lord Conwaye's request in that behalfe, to be a meanes of procuring him (in this strait of tyme) one thousand

m Dublin.

pounds, towards the present concluding with my Lord of Valentia, if Mr. Vice-treasourer find his Lo^p will not give tyme for payment thereof till Easter terme next; and my Lord of Conway will take order that it be repayd you very shortly. Could his Lo^p have payd two thousand pounds here it would (as you write) have been very convenient for my Lady Carlile and you to have payd soe much to those his occasions there; but, in regard of the difficulty of the returne by his servants there, in any seasonable tyme, he much rather desires the forementioned accomodation. Soe recommending his request, and my love to you, I rest

Your most faithful cosin and friend,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 23d of Nov. 1639.

All our matters here goe very well. The decree for Sir John Gifford affermed as just by the King. I shall be shortly with you. If it be possible you shall have a letter at lardge by the next week's end.

My Cose Radcliffe.

9.

Duplicate of my L're to Mr. Vice-treasourer, 23 9bris, 1639.

Coppye.

SIR,

23d Nov. 1639.

THE businesse I have here causeth the returne of my answeres to that side to be the slower and shorter. I hartily thanke you for y^e agrement you advertised me of betwixt my Lo.

B B

of Valentia and you for the resignation of his Marshall's place, and doe desire you thorowly to conclude and perfect it; obtaining nevertheless of him, if possibly you can, that he be contented to take the one thousand pounds in hand, and the other in Easter terme next. Howbeit if he will not assent upon other termes then to receive all his moneys presently upon the surrender, let not that breake off the agreement, for my Lord Conway now writes over for the present payment of the one thousand pounds; and, in case it be soe required, I have intreated my cosin Radcliffe to take some course there for y^e p'sent furnishing him of the other, for some short tyme, till my Lord Conway can see him reimbursed thereof. I doe therefore intreat you immediately to conclude with my Lord of Valentia; and, taking from him a legal surrender of his said place into his Ma^{ties} hands, to transmitt y^e same with all speed and safety hither to me, that thereupon I may procure my Lord Conway the King's letter for that place. And soe recommending myself very hartily unto you, I rest

Your assured faithfull friend and servant,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 23d of November, 1639.

Directed to Mr. Vice-tre'r'r.

10.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

10th Dec. 1639.

PERCHANCE you thinke I have forgotten you, it is soe longe since you received a letter of my owne hand; yet,

let me tell you, that can never be, or you a person to be esteemed less, or less beloved by your friends; and, in a few words, let me assure you, you are among all my other friends *in primis* with me, and so must continue soe longe as I live; but soe much, and enough for freindshippe sake, the rest is to be for business. My letter to the Lords Justices will shew you that the King resolves of a Parliament both here and ther, that to preceade, this heare to begin on Monday seavennight, after Easter; and that I must be at the beginning of both. Therefore, for love of God! plie the time, and send us over so much as may give a grounde for issuing the sommons, as soon as is possible; for if your Parliamt^t ther begin not by or nere the seconde of Marche, I shall not be back here in time. His Ma^{ty} hath given direction for making me Lieutenant-General; and if I should move, I believe the other thing tooⁿ. My Lord of Canterbury hath moved itt tow or three times, but itt sticks: what would you advise a man should doe in this case? Let me by the next finde what you thinke. The Queen useth me passing well; and the moving for this Parliament gives me a good reportt with the multitude^o. But many things ther are fit for you to know in the private passadge amongst us, which being to be ther soe soon, I will keep in store for you against we meet.

ⁿ Meaning, probably, the Earldom of Strafford.

^o The multitude were now grown formidable, and the Lord Deputy began to be apprehensive of the consequences of his own unpopularity.

I purpose, God willing! to be moving hence by the ninthe of January; and I pray you to take order that the tow pin-naces that brought us over may be ready at Beaumaris by the fifteen of that moneth, and ther to remaine till they will receave further order from me. But the one of them in the meane time must presently be ther ready for my Lo. Cheefe Justice, that purposeth to begin his iurney on Monday next. In good sadenesse he hath dischargd himself with greate care and ability, soe as I shall hold myself beholden to him as long as I live; and by him, if any thing be now forgotten, I shall supplie it by his relation when he cums.

The supplie I pitche upon is sixe subsidies in three yeares, and that alone will secure all that wee have to doe. You have returned little or noe money for my use forth of Irelande, so as I must have been in distresse, had not the Alloms a little helped me; but I pray you to send us over sum considerable some by returne; if ther be any to much, it^p may rest here till my returne at Easter. The letter you desired for my Lady of Carlisle is now sent to the Justices. I pray you now hasten that money as soon as is possible. Sir Rob. Pie will give us his acquittance for the rent of the Customs, soe as the tow thousand po'nds returned for that purpose I have in parte con-signed to pay her La^p, and the remaines you will be pleased to returne as speedily as possibly you can; and rather then you be put out of money, let the buildings stay, in the name of

^p Is, in the original.

God! till spring. In the regrant of the tow thousand pounds a yeare forth of the Customes, my Lady is content to give a covenant, that in case the impost fall to be under 2000*l*. cleare, she will make it up to that some, which, therefore, howbeit not in the letter, yet you will take order his Ma^{ty} be secured in this. I doe well understande you, and could wish the impost bought inn, but that must not move me to wronge my Lady, or insure the trust her La^p reposeth in me; the best is, this 2000*l*. will not make the deduction appeare to be soe very greate.

As for the Baronetshipp you mention, I hold it very unfitt to passe in^a ^r name but yourself. You knowe my opinion allready, and if you resolve to goe on withall, lett me heare from you by your next, and I shall be sure to fulfill all you desire before I stirre hence.

The letter you advise from his Ma^{ty} for taking away exactions in corporations, marquetts, &c. shall be sent by my Lo. Cheef Justice. That rumour concerning the Irishrye to trouble us therforth of Spain, I still hold a very fancye; yet it will not be amiss to hearken after it. But however at my coming I will remove a good part of the armye into thos parts, and before the springe it will be noe purpose to do it. I spake with the Queen concerning the booke, the Irishe Chatechisme you mention, which you may wthout great matter stay, for

^a blotted out.

* Radcliffe had probably solicited for a Baronet's Patent in his son's name.

you will not be blamed for it; yet if you deliver them her Ma^{ty} I perceave will take it well; soe to you I leave the election to doe as you see cause. The Bishop of Killalla his papers are herewith restored; you must proceed with effect, either to degrade him, or at least deprive him of his bishopricke: the sooner you dispatche it the better. The Bishop of Rosse^s is designed to succeed him, who is ready to take it, with thanks. I trust I shall, howbeit with mighty difficulty, reduce that business of the E. of Clanricards to reason; I will move his Ma^{ty} to referre it to the Committee of Irishe Affaires; we shall be harde enough for him. For my Lord of Valentia, God send him more witt and good nature then ever I could find to be in him; and this the worst I wish him, and now that he goes out of his place, all I will say to him. I heare nothing as yett of the E. of Meath's complaints, but let him cum, he will gett little help here. I pray you in any case gett Josephe and Rob. Lee to goe in the Bernes country, for letting those lands ther for the next yeare, lest otherwise the rent be lost this next summer; in any wise speak with Carpenter, and lett not this be neglected. And in case Hoyer hath not paid the money he owes me, lett ther be an entry made to a fourth part of his lands for the King's use; and tell the M^r of the Wards, that if my money, with interest, be not paid before my cumming over, I will secure my money out of that fourth parte, and settle the inheritance at after, wthout

^s In Scotland.

redemption in the Crowne: I take it an exceeding ill parte to be so played wthall. I approve of all you shall concerning Stevens; and for the morgage of Osberstone, they that had told you ther would be noe deputye at all shortly, had told you very true; but all other conjectures are very frivoulouse. Ther will be, wthout all question, a warre with Scotland, and that most just, necessary and honorable^t. Nothing is or will be confirmed; and soe fare you well.

Your ever most faithfull affectionate freind and cosen,

WENTWORTH.

Whitehall, this 10th of December, 1639.

11.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

11th Dec. 1639.

ACCORDING to that which you know was propounded before my comeing out of Ireland, touching the Byrnes Country, I have moved his Ma^{tie}, and received his gracious approbation of the offer made to paye to the Crowne two thousands pounds a yeare, fee farm rent, for the same; nevertheles his Ma^{tie} has graciously pleased to graunt and leave it to my libertye, that I may hereafter exchange with the Crowne all, or as much of the said fee farm rent as I shall like off, provided that I shall still secure other fee farma rent of like value in lieu thereof, to be issuing out of lands of

^t These epithets it deserved, except the second; but it ill-timed and impolitic.

treble yearly value to the rent soe secured. Wherefore I pray you cause a letter to be drawn for his Ma^{t^s} royal signature, to pass the Byrnes Country, in fee farme, unto Sir Robert Myredyth and Sir Phillip Percivall, knights, under the limitations afs^d. Having likewise moved his Ma^{tie} in the behalf of y^e Countesse of Denbigh, he his graciously pleased to bestow upon her fifteene hundred pounds, to be taken out of the profits arysing upon the commission for surrounded grounds there in Ireland, prosecuted by my brother Dillon. And for this a letter is in like manner to be drawn, and, together with the other, to be speedily sent unto me. With this pacquet I doe send his Ma^{tie} letter for setting the Countesse of Carlisle's business, about the impost of wynes. In drawing of conveyances, I pray you have a care that a covenant be expressed therein, that in case the clear profitt of the impost of wynes (the rent paid) doe in any way proove lesse then two thousand pounds, that then her lady^p, and her assigns, be concluded to make it up soe much as may chance to fall short of the said two thousand pounds. Soe I remaine

Your most faithfull affectionate friend and cosen,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 11th December, 1639.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

18 Dec. 1639.

THESE two words apart are only to advertise you of the tyme I intend, God willing! to begin my journey from hence towards Ireland, which I purpose to doe about y^e ninth of January; soe as I shall desire you to give order to Carpenter, that both the pinnaces may be ready at Beaumaris by the fifteenth of the same month. In the mean tyme I would have Carpenter to take course that my pinnace be at Beaumorris the thirtieth of this moneth, to transport my Lord Justice Lowther back, who purposeth to beginn his journey hence about St. Thomas his Day. And in case my pinnace cannot be ready to be sent over by that tyme for my Lord Lowther, then that the King's pinnace be sent for him, to be ready at the tyme and place aforesaid. And both these appointments Carpenter must take special care that they punctually complied with and observed. Soe I remaine

Your most faithfull affectionate freind and cosin,

WENTWORTH.

Covent Garden, this 18th of Dec. 1639.

COSIN RADCLIFF,

18th Dec. 1639.

THE returne of my Lord Cheefe Justice, together with this bearer, will make the shorter, considering that his Lo^p is able to give you a clear accompt in what state he leaves all here, and that I have not one letter of yours by me unanswered. We have gotten Sir Rob. Pie to give us an acquittance for this half yeare rent for the Customes, and to accept of the E. of Antrim his ingagement for paying the money he hath of the King's in his hands; and this I have caused to be paid to my Lady of Carlile, in partt of what is due unto her forth of the Impost, soe as there will be nowe soe much the less to returne over to her La^p as this halfe yeare rent of the Customes cum unto.

Understanding that my son looseth his time, under either the softnesse or negligence of his tutor, I have dealt with this gentleman to take upon him that chardge, and doe hereby most earnestly desire you to give him your advice in the directing of my son's study, and in providing him, if it be possible, a chamber in the colledge, that soe he may be the nearer his chardge; and that you will lett my son knowe, that I doe expect that what he advises, with your privity and allowance, he shall carefully observe and fullfill, as he expects to be well pleasing to me; and that all riding abroad, and other such like recreations, are to be layd aside till he have

recovered the time he hath hitherto mispent. Good George, afford me your care herein. My commission for the Lieutenancye is goinge on, and that dispatched, and the transmission for the next Parliament cumd^u, I will hasten my departure hence by all means I can: in any case lett those be hastened back with all possible speed. And soe farewell.

Your ever most faithfull affectionate freind and cosen,

WENTWORTH.

18th 10^{ber}, 1639.

14.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

17th Feb. 1639.

HAVING a rhewme fallen into my eyes, George Carr must write for me. I assure myself that you have taken all possible care there on that side in making choyse of the knights and burghess for this insueing Parliamt^t, considering that theirs here is conceived, may be soe well prepared by the good successe of that there, which being granted, the summons could not goe out too soon. Wee send you by this messenger the Commission and Acts by you transmitted, which you will find likewise dated and dispatched as you advised. In any case stay the writt of summons for my Lord Kildare till my coming over. I should have been extreamly gladd to have had the letters for y^e Bernes, and concerning my lady Denbigh; I feare they will not come till I be gon. I shall procure my Lord Chancello^r the letter desired, and

^u A Yorkshire-ism.

bring it along with me. Remember my service to his Lo^p, and assuer him of any service I can doe him. For the bookes taken at Waterford, I have spoken with her Ma^{ty}, and I see it will be best to let him have them that brought them, wthout making any further question at this time of the business; neither will it be amisse in order to y^e insueing Parliam^t. Wee have Sir Rob. Pye's acquittance for y^e rents of the Customes, allowing this halfe year's rent for the dischardge of the debt of the Earl of Antrime's to the King; soe these two provided for, we may bequeath other questions to be resolved betwixt the Duke and the Earle, as shall like them best. It is very true the^x late Chancel lo behaved himself passing rudely before the King, in soe much as his Ma^{ty}, when the roome was cleared, told me, that Lord had put a great compliment upon me, haveing there publickely at the boord fully testified all these unmannerly passages in Ireland wherewth he was charged.

As for a Sollicitor, that must rest till I speake with you, as alsoe the Atturney of the Court of Wardes. Your answer to Job Ward was very good, and may soe rest till my coming; nor did I give any order as he alledged.

For the moneys you mention, due to Captaine Peasley, I conceive there will be money sufficient to pay him out of the rents in Ireland; and therefore I pray you that you will call upon the steward and Joseph Peasley concerning them. My

^x The Lord Loftus.

Lady Carlile's money cannot be spared; I have made shift to pay her a thousand pounds here, and the rest must be made up.

For those stealths of tobacco forth of Scotland, I am of opinion that a little good looking to will rectifie those ports there, as well as in other parts of the kingdome. I will speake to the King in that business of Mr. Archibald Hayes, and dispatch it for you. That nine hundreth ninety and nine pounds demanded by my Lady Carlile, I shall desire you it may be evident against my coming, whether her La^p or Sir James Hayes had, in that there may be order taken accordingly. What money soever you returne hither, may here remaine against my coming back; and therefore procure as much thereof to be sent as you may. As concerning my Lord of St. Alban's his business, I trust to procure a direction very shortly. Touching the contract which the merchants for the Key made by the Commissioners for letting the Derry, I shall at the first meeting of the Committee for Irish Affairs speak to my Lord Tre'er and my Lord Cottington as you desired, that it may not proceed till the farmers of the Customes be heard. And thus have you an answer to all your letters, nor like to have any more till by the grace of God I see you. I assure myselfe y^e shipps you mention will be ready at Beaumaris against my coming. And soe farewell.

Your ever most faithful cosen and freind,

STRAFFORD.

Covent Garden, this 17th Feb. 1639.

The course y^t you have settled concerning my sonn's tutours is very good, and may so rest till I come. The gentleman's name is Rabie.

15.

COSEN RADCLIFFE,

7th April, 1640.

YOU will doe me the favoure, as with all possible speed you can, to send me the accompts, how they stand betwixt my Lady Carlile and me according to what I lately mentioned to you thereabout, soe as thereby I may particularly understand what I have to pay unto her La^p, and see the same may be performed accordingly. I doe likewise desire you very speedily and carefully to peruse the letter sent from us of y^e revenue there, to Mr. Secretary Windebanke, upon the letter obtained by my Lord Marshall, of soe lardge extent, as we humbly rep^sented to his Ma^{ty} what we conceived therein unfitt to be granted, and what we in the conclusion of that letter humbly advised my Lord Marshall might be gratified wthall; but upon his Lo^{ps} neglect hereof, his Ma^{ty} you know is pleaded to conferr the same upon my Lord Marquesse Hamilton, in whose behalfe you will upon perusall of the afore-said letter carefully drawe up one as beneficiall in his behalfe as was by us humbly advised might have been done for my Lo. Marshall. And send me over this draught with my Lady Carlile's accounts, the sooner the better; for in both

those p'ticulars something may be expected from me as soone as I come to London, which is somewhat retarded by my present indisposition, arising from my gout, late sea sickness, and continuing looseness; but I dayly hope for better, and ever rest

Your most faithfull affectionate freind and cosen,

STRAFFORDE.

Chester, this 7th of April, 1640.

16.

COSIN RADCLIFF,

May 2, 1640.

YOU will finde by my letter to the Deputy, that our into the field will be a moneth later then was intended, together with the reason; for my owne parte I expected good of this God grant I may prove ! However by this means wee shall cut of one moneth's chardge; and I will endeavour to get the loane you mentioned. Howbeit I am hopelesse of doing any good therein in these broken and ill disposed times. But the best is, soe longe as wee have in view money to serve the turne, if we can but make sure to victuall and clothe our men, I will trust with good wordes to gaine them to be contented, to expectt now and then a moneth or tow till the treasure cum, for soe as then they may be sure I will not doubt my credit so farre, but I shall obtaine as much of them as that comes too. If you knew how weary I am, having this day taken phisicke, you

would give your consent that I should thus quickly write myself,

Your most faithfull affectionate freind and cosin,

STRAFFORDE.

Leycester House, 2nd of May, 1640.

17.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

19th May, 1640.

IF I were for the present in better disposition of health, (howbeit I thanke God I am now somewhat better then I have lately been, which in truth was very dangerous ill,) these had come to you both under my owne hand, and been enlardged with divers other particulars I have to write to you; but what I shall now mention is only touching the tobacco businesse, and to desire you to prepare an act to be transmitted with the rest, that I shall come over hither for his Ma^{ties} allowance against the next Session, for granting and confirmeing to his Ma^{ty} preemption thereof, for increase of his revenue, which I shall, noe doubt, gett allowed on here, and being past there, may be to the full security of that affaire, and the contractor's lease. And I the rather take this occasion now to write to you in prevention of your fears upon misreports y^t come to you by other hands of my present state of health, the world being extreemly given to make all things worse. Soe commending me to my Lord Deputy, to whom I shall, God

willing! shortly, when I can, more fully write, I rest

Your most faithfull affectionate cosin ever,

STRAFFORDE.

Leicester House, this 19th of May, 1640.

18.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

11th June, 1640.

INTENDING that my brother George and my children shall this next week beginn their journey hence for Ireland, I desire you give present order to Captaine Bartlet, that he, and the pinnace wherein you come over, may stay in Chester water till my comeing thither, for their safe transportation and better convenience in their passage. I have taken, I thank God! very good rest this last night, and not had any one occasion from my loosenesse. I wish you a good journey, and forbaere further till I see you, resting ever

Your most faithfull affectionate cosin and freind,

STRAFFORDE.

Leicester House, this 11 of June, 1640,

at ten of y^e clock before noone.

19.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

July 3d, 1640.

THE King hath taken a sudden resolution to go himself presently to York; sends me into Irelande, my lord Marquiss into Scotland, and till he goe injoynes me to attend every day at Oatlandes; for my parte I give all to tende
^a peace And of this more when wee meet.

Yours allways faithfull and true cosin and friend,

STRAFFORDE.

Sion, Munday morning, 6 o'clock.

20.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

THE newes are brought me by a letter from the Marquisse, which I received at Caxton. The Scotts are cumd in (Friday last, as I guesse). The King stirrs not from Yorke till I cum. Six of the Yorkshire regiments the King takes along with him, and leads them himself. The Marquise holds his regiment, which the King makes choyse of for his owne guardes. The particulars I shall have more spetiall by a letter from the Treasurer, which as yet I have not receaved.

^a Where the dots are, erasures have been made.

I am not very weary, but much worse then I was this morning, my paines are the very same I had in my sickness, and this new greefe which I have againe gott on my liver side gives me my former difficulty of breathing, and will, I doubt, force me to lett bloode; yet hitherto I am able to endure travaile, I praise God! and soe as long that holds I shall goe on. George, I am in all conditions

Your most faithfull affectionate freind and cosin,

STRAFFORDE.

Huntingdon, Munday, at nine of the clock at night. Not one of my serv^{ts} cum but J. Wetheride and the Coke.

I pray desire Will Raylton to sollicite my Lords of the Committee to hasten away the stores and other provisions for the army, which are yet in the river. The Officers of the Ordinance must be called upon.

(Let the inclosed be sent away with speed.)

21.

COSIN RADCLIFFE, Sept. 1st, 1640.

PITTY me, for never came any man to so lost businesse. The army alltogether unexercised and unprovided of all necessarys. That parte which I bring now with me from Durham the worst I ever saw. Our horse all cowardly,

the country from Barwicke to Yorke in the power of the Scott,
an universall affright in all, a generall disaffection to the
King's service, none sensible of his dishonour. In one worde,
here alone to fight with all the evils, wthout any one to helpe.
God of his goodnesse deliver me out of this the greatest evill
of my life. Fare you well^y.

Your ever most faithfull and most

Affectionate cosin and freind,

STRAFFORDE.

Northallerton, 1st Septemb. 1640.

22.

COSIN RADCLIFFE,

5th Nov. 1640.

THE commission for my L^d of Ormonde is sent
you herewith. I have writt to London to prorogue the Par-
liament there in Ireland; in the mean time the Act for Con-
naught to be passed, if possible may be, and the House of
Commons there to be kept to consider onely of the lawes
transmitted, wthout admittinge them any newe discourse of
other matters. Then susidies are not to be accepted, as they
offer them; there order is to be protested against by my L^d

y This Letter speaks the language of the heart; it is a short but eloquent
burst of indignation, from a brave and faithful man, heart-broken by the
cowardice and treachery of all around him.

Deputy at the concluding of this cession, and to be vacated and torne out of the booke, as being that which nether they can justifie, nor is in there power for to limit; the first in respecte of Poynings Act; the second, because against the Acts of Parliament for those subsidies. The Apostles^z you mention in the Counsell's letter I find not in this packett, and therefore can say nothing to them. Remember my service to my Lord of Ormond, who shall herewith receave the power and warrants he desires. The fees of Sir William Udall will I cause to be procured at London, and transmitt them to Mr. Vice-treasurer from thence. Joseph Peasley had reason to refuse my L^d Esmond's offer, for I ever took the land to be too high rated; therefore procure his assurance, and hold him strickly to the vaw; neither is the mony to be payd him till the assurance be perfected; and therefore looke to him, for you know he is a slippery gentleman. For Cloughhammon G. Carre will look to it, and settle it with the help of Joseph Peasley, both whose utmost endeavours I expect therein. If that for my L^d Marquesse do not take, I desire you to look out some other thinge for him, and use diligence therein. My L^d Clanricard must have all his land;

^z Apostles, in the diplomatic language of that day, were marginal notes, generally in the King's hand, written on the margin of State Papers. The word in somewhat a similâr sense had its origin in the Canon Law. See many instances of Apostles by Charles I. in Abp. Laud's Diary. See also Du Cange, *in voce* Apostoli.

but we shall have the liberty of exchanges, wherein I have undertaken he shall be no looser.

In the surrounded lands, Sir Hardress Waler may be remembered at leasure; and in the mean time I will deale with my Lady Denby as well as I can, which will prove no little trouble. I will not faile to speake with my L^d Cottington concerninge the assignment for the 14000*l*. and will have such a care of Slingby as he shall not suffer by it in any kinde. In one kinde or other you must take care that the monies for my Lady Carlile be payd to her at London this terme, for she have neede of it, wherein your care is to be used; for in any case it may not be neglected. I pray you returne as much monies hither as possible you can, for I shall have neede of it, in regarde, I believe, the recusants revenue will fall short, by reason of these troubles. Thus much in answer to yours of the 28th of 8^{ber}.

9^{ber} y^e 5th, 1640.

[No Signature.]

Indorsed "Ld. Straff'd, 1640, No. 5th."

23.

[*Indorsed* "8. 8. 40. Proposition Scots, rejected by me, and crossed."]

WHETHER as the condition of affairs now stand in the three kingdoms, it be of absolute necessity for the publique sauftie of this kingdome, and for securing it from

Scottish invasion, to banish all the under Scots^a in Ulster by proclamation, grounded upon an humble request of the Co'mons House in this p'nte P'liam^t.

I take it for granted that the House of Co'mons (the intended blessed reformac'on of my L. of Argyle's hyhlanders and redshanks, with other p'ticulars, being fully rep'sented to them) will chearfully noate this proposition; and my confidence herein is grounded upon good reasons, fitter for p'sonall discourse then here to bee in writing incerted. And if this weightie business be retarded in expectac'on of a resolution from England, the opportunitie maie likely bee left, for Argyle may come; and whoe doubts but the attempt and good success of his fellow covenants^{rs} in England will prompt him to higher aymes in Ireland; and such is the intenc'on, already appears by his extraordinarie provision of all manner and kinds of necessaries requisite for the transportac'on of an army: add that 40,000 able bodied men of the Scotch nac'on in those p'tes, are a strong and safe encouragem^t for his landing, and which is not inconsiderable. The meere Irish, the aunicent depend^t of the O'Neales in that province, maie

^a This was one of the vigorous measures which Strafford's genius and spirit suggested too late, for which reason it was rejected by the sober judgment of his friend. The advantage of the connexion here stated, between the Highlanders and their neighbours of Ulster, was shortly after retorted upon the Covenanters by Montrose and the Marquis of Antrim.

upon this occation be attempted, and laid hold and take advantage of the opportunitie, by graspeing lands and lib'tie, both which will in all probabilitie bee strongly urged and offered by a knowing cunning enemy, to gaine the strongest p'ty.

The consequence that will follow upon the voateing of this p'ticular in P'liament will bee of noe small import to his Ma^{ty} service, for thereby will infallibly follow a p'petual distrust and hatred betweene both kingdomes; and, the warr continuing, can produce little other or lesse amongst them then a lasting nationall quarrell.

This designe being resolutely pursued will not only secure us att home, falsify the rumours of our discontent, give the lye to the report of wresting the printed declarac'on from us, but wthall such countenance the King's affaires in England, gain him reputac'on in forraigne p'tes, and render this nac'on by their countenance formidable to Scotland. Distinction should be put betweene the under Scotts, who are soe numerous and soe ready for insurrecc'on; and such as have considerable estates in lands, to ingage and secure their fidelitie. It alsoe will bee of use to declare it a condiconall banishm^t till peace bee firmly settled.

Happly it will be objected, that the Scots in Ulster took the oath administred in implicit abjuration of the covenant, that they are the King's subjects, not yet convinced of actuall rebellion. That it will bee a hard case to banishe the Kinge's

people upon supposition and conjecture; and that by this course the major parte of all the North will bee untenanted.

To this I answer, that mainie thousands in the Northe never tooke the oathe; and as I am certainly made believe, they now publicquely avouch it as an unlawfull oath; and for ought I see, they will shortly retourne, to any that dares question them, such an answer as Rob't Bruce, Earle of Carricke, made to Sir John Comyn, whoe, chargeing him with breach of oath taken at Westminster to King Edward, replyes with cleaving Sir John's heade in twoe. Did not the nobility of Scotland sweare faithe to the Kinge upon his coronac'on? and what has that secured Newcastle or his Mat^{ys} subjects in defending it? None is soe dim-sighted but sees the gen'all inclination of the Ulster Scots to the Covenant: and God forbid they should tarrie there till the Earle of Argile brings them armies to cut our throats, to our apparent disturbance, if not certayne ruyne. And what co'mon wealth will not give waie that a few landlords (for they are but a few) should receive some small p'judice, where the publique sauftie and certaine peace of the whole is concerned.

It will be objected that the Scots are manie in number, everie ordinarie fellow still carrieing his sword and pistoll; and therefore unsaue to bee too farr provoaked. I answer, 'tis more unsaue to deale with an enemy by haulfes; and that I fear will fall out to bee our case if resolutely this designe bee not put in execuc'on; for whoe sees not if the now standing

army bee not able, wthout anie manner of daunger or difficultie, to give them the lawe, and send them forthwith pacqueing—I say who sees not that (upon Argile's landing and armeing of them) we shall bee exposed to a most assured scorne and certaine ruine? What number of boats and barques will serve for the transportac'on and passage of soe manie, how they maie bee suddainly and wthout noyse provided, and in what havens they should be landed from Argile's reach (whoe otherwise maie hinder the retournè of the vesells and marriners), prop' for p'sonall debate with such as are acquainted in those partes.

24.

28. 8. 40. Copy of my note anexed to my le're to my Lo. Leiut.
28 8^{bris}, 1640.

My Lo. of Ormond hath noe comⁿ as yet to command the army as Leiften^t-g'rall, w'ch he ought to have; wthout it hee cannot use marshall lawe. My Lo. Presid^t writt that he meant to hange 4 souldiers as yesterday for burglaries, w'ch was a necessary pointe of sev'ity (the souldiers growing insolent for want of imploym^t); but I know not what warr^t hee has for it.

I am altogether of opinion to prorogue the Parliam^t, if I could get the Cannoght Act passed (thoe methinkes they doe not much like that lawe); or without it, rather than to keepe

them to longe together; onley your Lo^{pps} resoluc'ons, what we shall doe concerning the subsidies, accept their offer, or protest ag^t their order; and what course then to be taken.

The Apostiles, menc'oned in the Concell's le's, weare leaft to me, and they are in the margent of the inclosed ord^r; but the Councell never sawe them, but onely my Lord Deputie.

My Lord of Ormond is very right and gallant, ready to execute whatsoev^r your Lo^p shall com'and him for the King's service; but hee will expect a good warr^t, which is but reason. I beseech yo^r Lo^p remember him with the King. I beseech yo^r Lo^p let one of yo^r secretaries certifie me what perquisites Sir W^m dale hath for issueing the King's money to the army. Mr. Vice-treasurer claims 6*d.* but takes 3*d.* for each pound paid to that use. My Lo. Esmond lookes for 2500*l.* to be presently paid him: a great some as the world goes with us. Hee hath not yet p'fected the assurance; but his man taking the draught from Mr. Sollicitor, never yet brought it back. Joseph Peisley saies, that my Lo. Esm. would have take the managem^t of the landes into his handes for yo^r Lo^p; but he refuseth, conceiving that it is over-valued, and that the rate will not hould.

I think you have an ill bargaine of Cloughaman; the tent refuseth his lease, and the rates will not hold.

Wee have put yo^r landes in the Bernes, Coshaw, Shilelagh, and Kildare, into a reasonable good order, and shall goe on

with the rest. I hope to have faire rentalls of all entred in a booke.

Brimingham's countrie holds not, nor will anie thing there bee had for the Kinge. I sent Mr Solicitor to Sr W^m Cooley: his informac'on is lesse than nothing. The principall has past upon the comision of defective titles; they are of English decent, have had several decents.

And the two attainders menc'oned by Sr W^m Cooley prove to be nothinge. What shall we now doe for the Marquis? My lo. of Clanrickard refuseth the letter which I drew and left with Mr. Raylton, wthout which wee shall bee pushed for the distribution of Gallwaie; I would wee had it, for we are now ready for the great pattentes to the Corporac'on, which is not fitt to be delaied.

I cannot yet get a chapman for the surrounded lands, nor thinke it fitt to make anie noise this Parliamt. Sir Hardress Waller is concerned in it, and hee hath some vogue in the House of Com'ons, where hee complim^{ts} with the King, but voats ag^t us. My Lady Denbigh must have patience, and if yo^r Lo^p bee soe pleased, I cannot rayse the rates to recompence the delaie. The assignment of 14,000*l*. upon the soape, wherein my Lo. Cottington thought or would have me believe hee did use a courtesie, answers not our necessities. My Lo. Marquiss, as I heare, has gotten afore us. In the mean time Mr. Guilford Slingsby's creditt lyes att stake for 6000*l*. which if it be not speedily paid, hee will suffer much by it.

I humbly intreate yo^r Lor^{ps} directions in such of these p'ticulars as require yo^r order.

28 8^{bris}, 1640.

[*Written by Sir G. R.*]

25.

I DOE hereby promise upon the faith of a Christien, and honor of a gentleman, not to reveale any discourse that shall passe between Tho^s. Webb and me, wthout his consent and privatie first had in writing thereunto, because he doth declare, that he hath noe private end of his owne; and that he will not undertake the prooffe of any thing, but is willing to be free with me out of his zeal to his King and Country, for the good of both, if by such probabilityes as he shall impart unto me (who he conceaves to be a person in the King's trust and affaires) use may be made for his Ma^{ties} service. And this being to be delivered to me in trust, I hold myself soe obliged to secrecy (notwithstanding my place of a Councellour), that if I faile to him herein, I wish no reputation to the name of

That this is a true Coppie, I subscribe

THO. WEBB.

And before this note was signed, there was assurance given that there was noe treason directly ag^t y^e King's person.

To my worthy freind, Sir George Radcliffe, these.

26.

COSIN RADCLIFF,

5th Nov. 1640.

I HAVE soe many things to write I knowe not well where to begin, on this side or on that; but I will first let you see our present condition here, and come to the other at after.

Our Lords Commissioners concluded a cessation of armes with the Scotts on Munday was seavennight, and we transferred the treaty to London. I shall not neede to mention any of the articles, bycause George Carre hath them to shew you.

They gave an accompt to his Ma^{ty} and the greate Counsell, wherwth, to my thinking, his Ma^{ty} seemed not well pleased; but after sum howers of debate, his Ma^{ty} allowed therof, yet were not the articles signed by the rest of the Lords, as was desired by the Commissioners, neither are they to be signed by the King; only his Ma^{ty} by a letter aparte under the signet is to allowe therof. Much adoe ther hath been, and the greatest malignity expressed towards me that ever you saw; wherin, nevertheless, I trust I have given them noe advantage. Howbeit the Scotts have publickly declared me ther enemye, a publicke incendiary, and I know not what besides.

My Lord of Bristol hath been ther mercury in all the treaty; Holland, Mandeville, Wharton, and Savile, greatly

busied therein; and Barkshire, under the highest professions of friendship you ever hearde, brought to be the condute to utter all ther bitterness towards me.

My Lord of Bristoll professeth great friendship unto me, and very faire and kinde we continue; but yet he put it notably upon me in divers particulars whilst the business was in agitation. First, whether I would advise the breach of the treaty; and if soe, how I would assure the King and Kingdome wee should bee able to beate out the Scotts. My answer was, that I was soe farre from advising a breach, as I should not presume a judgment in a business of soe great consequence as the treaty was: and for assuring any thing, I was less able to doe that; I was not a prophet, nor the son of a prophet, that I could devine; and howbeit I had the honour to be of his Ma^{ties} Privy Counsell, yet I was not of the Almighty's Privy Counsell, to undertake to bespeake the event of warre before hande. All I was able to doe (and that I did) was truly to let them knowe as much as I knew of the strengthe of both armyes, and soe humbly to submit the resolution to ther greater wisdom. Secondly, his Lo^p propounded, that I might be left here to see the preformance of the treaty, and that I should be the Commissioner to treat and drawe the adjacent shires, Cumberland, Westmerland, Lancaster, and Yorke, to contribute with Durham and Northumberland towards the maintenance of the Scotishe armye.

My answer was, that for the treaty, I was not soe well knowing the private debates, arguments, reasons, and purposes thereof, as to be able soe well to judge what might be or might not be in breach thereof, as others that had heard all; and that in respect thereof, my Lord Wharton and Savile were farre more capable to discharge that service then myself. Besides, I had the charge of the armye upon me, which alone was more then sufficient to a person of much more experience then myself.

For the latter I held it noe ways cumly for me, commanding this army under his Ma^{tie} and my Lord Generall, to be busied in raising contribution for the Scotishe army for two monthes pay, not knowing the whilst wher to procur two dayes to our owne; soe as I did absolutely protest against my being an instrument of drawing new provinces under the Scotishe yoke; and that in my owne private capacity I would never give them any thing, rather bestow my whole estate upon the King than one farthing on them. Besides, I, being by them declared ther enemy, was of all others leas proper to be employed in ther affaires. This debate finally tooke end by his Ma^{ties} saying, that indeed they were not fitt for me to meddle in. Lastly, his Lo^p and the other Commissioners acknowledging the treaty not to be such as they had cause to bragge of, being onely amidst these publike misfortunes to choose the least of evils, they reade a long declaration containing

the reasons wherfore they wher constrained to conclude this treaty, in prevention of farre greater mischiefs, and pitched the strengthe of thes reasons forth of what I had said in the great Counsell on several occasions, taking and leaving as they liked themselves best, and thus to make me the auctor of what they profest not good in itself; and yet privately chardged me to be of all others most averse unto the treaty. Was not here, if you observe it, a rare art and malice together? Hereupon was I forced to run over all I had said since the first time the Counsell of Peers sat, to denie sum things they said in that declaration, and thorowout to supplie it where they had left any thing forth; as indeed was done in most of the particulars so collected, and those most materiall ones.

Ther Lo^{ps} acknowledged sum things to be mistaken, and soe to be left out; in other things my Lord of Bristoll said it should be mended, and sent to me to alter and chandge any words not pleasing to me. I humbly thanked his Lo^p for his noble offer, but that it could not consist with my modesty to presume to be able to mende what had past so much abler judgem^{ts} and greater experiences then my owne. I humbly craved, that if it seemed good to ther Lo^{ps} to grounde any thing upon my sudden and weake opinions, they would take them all together, and not to picke them forth by peeces; and, as I live, if they publishe this declaration, in answeare therof you shall have me eare long a foole in print.

I am to-morrow to London, with more dangers besett, I believe, then ever any man went with out of Yorkshire^b; yet my hartte is good, and I finde nothinge cold wthin me. It is not to be beleevd how great the malice is, and how intente they are about it: little lesse care ther is taken to ruin me then to save ther owne souls. Nay, for themselves, I wishe ther attention to the latter were equal to that they lend me in the former; and certainly they will racke heaven and hell, as they say, to doe me mischief. They expectt great matters out of Ireland, therefore pray you lend an eare to what may stirr there; howbeit I knowe not any thing yet. Geo. Carre hath sumthing to tell you that against all events must be provided for.

If they cum to chardge, I will send for you to have your helpe in my defence. I pray therfore make ready, if the occasion be offered; else stirr not. The King hath given me great demonstrations of his affection, and strong assurances as can be expressed in words. The Queen is infinitely gracious towards me, above all that you can imagine, and doth declare it in a very publike and strandge manner, soe as nothing can

^b Strafford appears to have been fully aware of the storm which was ready to burst upon him: and nothing but a good conscience and great constitutional intrepidity could have enabled him, in such circumstances, to express himself with so much calmness to a friend with whom he had no reserve.

hurtt me, by God's help ! but the iniquitie and necessity of thes times.

Three maine disadvantages the King and his poor servants labour under at this time ; and what the effects thereof may be God Almighty knows ! The uttermost of the Scotts demands are yet vailed from us and certainly by design of sum even amongst ourselves, soe as the minds and opinions of the subjects are infinitely distracted ; sum thinking over well, others may be over ill of ther purposes, which turne infinitely to the King's prejudice ; for if they were once made patent, every man's judgment would be satisfied, and soe unity and concurrence in counsells, by God's grace, might follow, which is the only meanes under his goodness to preserve and save ourselves and children by. The Scotishe army is still by this means kept as a rod over the King, to force him to doe any thing the Puritan popular humour hath a minde unto, which is a devillish practise, if you will consider it. This army, which is our bulwark, depends nearly upon the loane of the Citty ; if that faile, wee disbande shamefully, and with all the danger that can be thought of, which certainly they will either inlardge or straten, as the King shall please the P'liamt more or less ; which I asseure you I take to be of more perill then any of the rest, albeit the other are as bad almost as bad can be.

Thus you see we are in a brave condition ; could any man wish it worse ? the question is to be answered wth a verse of

Spencer, "God help the men, thus wrapt in error's endless traine^c." The Lord Keeper, to begin the business with, hath declared in open Parliam^t the warre was advised by the body of the Counsell, w^{ch} albeit in effect true, yet are they infinitely offended at it; what expedient they will finde to recruite it, we must expect. In the mean time I am hastened up; that ther is a great want of me^d; that if I had been ther that folly had not been committed; that I was of absolute necessity to be ther, and therefore noe delay to be used; and soe am I pulled from Old Woodhouse^e by heade and eares, as they used to say, and forced to leave the army, which I confesse I doe most unwillingly, albeit a chardge all others I would thanke God to be free of. As concerning that other army ther, it must rest as it is till I cum to London, then you shall speedily heare from me againe; in the meane time, I would have the Deputy and you interesting the rest of the Counsell by degrees wth you to deal with my Lord Ormonde, that now being to goe to ther winter quarters, the souldiers' pay, during time of garrison, may be reduced to sixpence a day, wherein not stirring the officers, you may have them to joyne in the business, taking yo^r rise from the Parliam^{ts} abayting indeed abusing the subsedies. If you compass this you do a great

Faery Queene, Book I. c. i.

^d See Whitlocke, p. 36.

^e Νυν ὑσάλον δεωμενος. Eurip. About the end of May following he returned, not to the house, but to the sepulchre of his Ancestors.

service, and methinks it is not very harde if dexterously handled; for truly six pence ther is more then eight pence here, but then yo^r direction must be hastened thether before the King's pleasure be declared for setting the subsedie, and prorouging the Parliamt. The Archbishop of Yorke^f died since the King's departure, and thereby lies a tale which you can easily expound^g.

An answeare to all your other partes of yo^r letters you will finde in the inclosed and in the duplicate of my letter to Secretary Windebanke, wh^{ch} George Carre hath to shew you. Remember my service to the Deputy^h; shew him this letter, it willⁱ from me, that he must *tenir roide*, and not suffer my gentlemen to grow insolent upon him, and that his old rule of moderate counsells will not serve his turne in cases of this extremity; to be a fine well-natured gentleman will not doe it, we are put by that warde: I cannot write to him now; the best is, what is for one is for both. For love of Christ take order that all the money due to my Lady Carlile be paid before Christmas; for a nobler nor more inteligent friendship did I never meet with in all my life; and send me as much as pos-

^f Dr. Neile.

^g The promotion of Bishop Williams to the vacant See—a compliment to the Puritans, which, however politic at that juncture, Strafford would abhor.

^h Wandsford.

ⁱ A word appears to be wanting here.

sible you can, for ther will be use of all, and yet you must by any means make streight wth the Vicetreasureur; a heavy task you will say; I grant it, but who can help that will away. I must intreate both the Deputy and you to assist and advise Captain Rockley all you may; and soe, gentle George, farewell.

Your ever most faithfull affectionate freind and cosin,

STRAFFORDE.

Wentw. Nov. 5th, 1640.

I am, God be prayed! much amended in my health, albeit exceeding troubled with the stone, and have it now to begin my journey wth, but for all that I voide them wth reasonable ease, and am very gallant on the matter.

Albeit I doe not answeare all your letters, in this strait wherein I am; yet have I great use of them, and hope to live to give you more thanks for them then a few lines can express. To the best of my judgment we gaine much rather then loose. I trust God will preserve us; and, as all other passions, I am free of feare, the articles that are cumming I apprehend not. The Irishe business is past, and better then I expected, ther proofes being very scant. God's hand is wth us, for what is not we might expect to have been sworne from thence? Continue your letters, which are not ill bestowed upon me; for I observe them, and have great use of yo^r advice, w^{ch} hath helped me exceedingly. All will be well, and every hower

gives more hope then other. God Almighty protect and guide us !

Sunday after dinner.

27.

Sir George Radcliffe to

I AM sent to the Tower: the order is not yet delivered to Mr. Weelks, but it will be sent to him in the morninge. Mr. Denzill Holles offers to goe to some of y^e Lords tomorrow morninge to get ther consent y^t I may stay here, and the under-keeper (who useth me well) shall have the charge of me. Give me your advise. I shall be well here, and it will lesse affright my wife, then the noise of goinge to the Tower. But I much desire to see my Lo^k if were possible. But it would trouble me infinitely to see him goe away. If there be any hope still of comfort, I am for the Tower absolutely; but if not, I am here. The Lieutenant is my friend; there is a church, and places to walk in, on the other sides, precious wth me; and I feare it will be worse gettinge my libertie fro' that place then here. Advise, advise me. Could you not gett me y^e opinion of 186. tomorrow morninge before eleaven at y^e clocke: or earlier, if it wear possible.

Saturday night 8th May.

^k This is clearly addressed to Lord Strafford, though, from caution, he is mentioned in the third person.

28.

Lord Strafford's note.

I THINKE it best you stay where you are, and let us see the issue of tomorrow. Gentle George, let me have your prayers to God for the forgiveness of my sinns and saving of my soule. Meete, I trust, we shall in heaven, but I doubt not on earthe. Howbeit, all men living I should be gladdest to spend an hour with you privately; if that might be admitted, that might be comfort to me; to see you at a distance but a trouble and disturbance.

Sunday morning, 8 o'clock, 9th May¹.

29.

GOD's arm is not shortened, nor his bowels of compassion straitened; but he knows what is good for us; and out of his infinite mercy makes all things work for the best to them that love him. Happy are we if our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worke for us a farre more exceeding and eternall waight of glory. I am most confident that you have (and still doe) diligently examined your con-

¹ The Earl was executed on the 12th of that month.

science and whole life past; and by true repentance, and lively faith, made your peace with God in the blood of Christ Jesus. Having judged your selfe, you shall not be judged; and yet chastened of the Lord, that you may not be condemned with the world. God make you conformable to our blessed Saviour in sufferings; you have followed him in many of the same steps; you shall doubtless be glorified wth him. I shall account noe losse, if I doe now shortly attend yo^r blessed soule into the state of rest and happiness. But whatsoever small remainder of tyme God shall vouchsafe me in this world, my purpose is to imploy it chiefly in the service of your children, the onely meanes I have to testify my sense and acknowledgem^t of that great debt of duty and thankfulness to your memory, w^{ch} I must be ever paying, but can never discharge^m. I most humbly begge your charity to my wife, your blessing to my sonne, your pardon to my selfe, for all my negligences, ignorances, and infirmities. The Father of Mercyes and God of all consolation be your peace and everlasting comfortⁿ!

^m Very like the turn of thought and expression in those well-known lines of the *Paradise Lost*:

“Which owing owes not, but still pays, at once

“Indebted and discharg’d.”——

▪ This admirable address, together with the answer, has already been published in *Strafford's Letters*; but the pathetic spirit of sorrowing friendship, and still more the exalted strain of piety which it breathes, have induced me to reprint it. I recommend a serious perusal of it to those who still affect to believe, that Religion at this period was confined to the Puritans.

30.

DEAR GEORGE,

MANY thanks I give you for y^e great comfort you give me in this letter; all your desires are freely granted; and God deliver you out of this wicked world according to the innocency that is in you. My brother George will come to you, and shew you such things as in this short tyme I could thinke of; imperfect they are, and therefore I wholly submitt all to be ordered as shall amongst you be thought most meet; and if the debts cannot otherwise be dischardged, the lands in Kildare may be sold. The King sayth he will give all my estate to my sonne; sends me word by my Lord Primate. God's goodnesse be ever amongst us all, this being the last I shall write, and so blessed Jesu receave my soule!

I leave to your care y^t you trusted; that if you finde the estate will beare it, to raise y^e portions of my daughters, according as was intended by my will.

This a true copy of my last to my Lord, and of his to me.

GEO. RADCLIFFE.

Indorsed, My Lo. of Str. last directions about his debts and daughters portions.

This the copy; y^e original is laid up wth other papers.

Examinat' p' me HEN. WATKINS.

Indorsed

M. of Rolls. Cypher Monosyllabills.

and 90. if 91. for 93. that 92. w^{ch} 94. wth 95. best 96. not 97.
doe. 98. have 99. will 100.

All XI ullytyes from the figure 1. to 40.

England - - - - -	41	E. of Pembroke - - -	65
Scotland - - - - -	42	E. of Newcastle - - -	66
Ireland - - - - -	43	E. of Holland - - -	67
Ffraunce - - - - -	44	The Duke of Lynoxe -	68
Spayne - - - - -	45	Marquiss of Hamil' -	69
Holland - - - - -	46	Mr Secr' Coke - - -	70
Irish Committ in England	47	Mr Secr' Winde - - -	71
Privy Councell Ingl. - -	48	L ^d Cottington - - -	72
Priv. Coun. Irrel. - - -	49	S ^r Arth. Ingram - - -	73
Com. Revenue - - - - -	50	S ^r Geo. Wentworth -	74
Com. Defective Titles -	51	Mr Secret ^r Mainwaring	75
Committ. Plantation - -	52	The Bishop of Derry -	76
The King - - - - -	60	L ^d Chan' of Ireland -	77
The Queen - - - - -	61	S ^r Rob ^t Loftus - - -	78
Archbish. of Cant: - - -	62	His Lady - - - - -	79
The Lo. Trea'rur of Ingl.	63	S ^r E ^d Loftus - - - -	80
L ^d Martiall - - - - -	64	The Countesse of Carlile	81

The L. Deputy	- - -	82	The Shipping business in		
The E. of Ormond	- -	83	Ingl.	- - - -	87
L ^d Matravers	- - -	84	Tunnadge and Poundadge		88
M ^r of the Roules Ireland		85	Warre	- - - -	89
S ^r G. Radcliffe	- - -	86			

32.

A specimen of a Cypher which seems to have been used by Sir George Wentworth, and decyphered in another hand.

EVER since the ^{Scotch} zivaio ^{covenanting} Jubletgtaptn there hath
 be great aymingto ^{remove} ylsubl ^{Ea} lg ^{of} um ^{Strafford} zaygmmuyk. And upon ^{his} opz
 undertaking in yt busyness ^{for} muy ^{his} opz ^{Majesty} sgplzae there were some
^{here} oyl contriving to ^{ingage} ptngnl ^{him} ops in it, as a ready meanes to ^{worke} cuyql
^{his} opz ^{ruine} ybptl: ^{Sir} zpy ^{Jo} Pu ^{Clatworthy,} Irgacuyaoe, ^{Parr} Wgyy and others were em-
 ployed ^{into} ptau ^{England} ltnrgtk and ^{Scotland} ziuargtk ^{to} au ^{foment} mustlta things against
^{him} ops, & ^{him} bring ops into dislike ^{with} cpao ^{people} ye wluwrl; but upon the
^{calling} igrrptn of the former ^{Parl} wgyrpgslta ^{in Eng} pt lta ^{ch} w^{ch} was dissonant to ye
^{great} judgem^t of ^{ones} nylga utly, it was conceaved necessary that ^{E.} L ^{Straf} Zaygm
 should bee present, and then ^{Lo} ru ^{Rannelagh} ygttlrgno ^{S. C. Parsons} wgyzutz, & ^{Ad} z gh
^{Loftus} runabs ^{to} began to make addresses ^{Vane & M.} au ^{Hamilton} bgtl s ogspraut afar off,

of whom ^{by} he ^{Seotch} ye ^{faction} zivaio mgiaput they had assurance. At first
 only ye worke was au ^{to} ptngnl him ^{ingage} in that ^{Kingdom} qptnkusl, soe to be
 free of him ⁱⁿ pt ^{Ireland} pylrgtk, where ye ^{Keepers} gllwlz & ^{Treasurers} aylgzbylyz ^{places} wrgilz of
 England were ^{offered} ummlylk ^{him} ops, but that ^{Parliament} wgyrpgslta was no sooner
 resolved on but ^{M Ham} s ogs ^{to break it} made it his resolution, au hylgq pa w^{ch} by
^{Vane} Og^{tl} hee did; a thing easily done, himsele and many ^{great} nylga
^{ones} utlz beeing involved in ^{monopolyes} sutuwurclz. Then was the ^{people} wluwrl
 sufficiently ^{inraged} ptygnlk wth ^{E. Straff} L Zaygmm, and hee put to a new
 game, evry emptying ^{his} opz ^{score} ziuy^l bront ^{upon} opz ^{his} head, and ^{hee} oll
 without ^{money} sutle or ^{credit} iylkpa to keep things already in great extre-
 mity from greater. Then was it laboured to keepe ^{Straf} L zaygm
^{on} ut that ^{side} zpkl. The ^{Londoners} rutkutlyz they would ^{lend no money} rltk tu sutle; the
^{Scots} zivaaz they were wrought upon to ^{advance the King} gkbgtil aol qptn in straits,
 and sure they were ^{E. Strafford} L zaygmmuyk would not be wrought ^{from} myus
^{him} ops. Then were wess ^{Pym and} g^{tk} others to keep aol ^{the Londoners} rutkutlys dis-
 contented, their whole kypma being ^{drift} ga ^{at E. Straff} L Zaygm, as the only
^{man that stood} sgt aogo ^{way} zauuk in their ^{treason} ege; ^{his charge} aylgzut was to be ops jogynl,
 & if that ^{the people} fayled aol wluwrl must doe it, for ^{hee must.} goe oll sbza.
 The greatest difficulty was to gett ^{him from the army} ops myus aol gyse
 and evyql, & keep ^{Yorke} ops ^{him from Ireland} myns pylrgtk, w^{ch} ^{Ham Vane} ogs & Bg^{tl} la-
 boured, by gayning ^{his Majestie} opz ^{E. Straff} sgplzal to promise L Zayg, & give

him hand not suffer
 ops his ogtk that hee should tua zbmmy (w^{ch} to my knowledge
 in his person, honour, or fortune. hee
 is true) pt opz wlyzut, outuby, uy muyabtl. To London oll
 came accusation to the Black Rod hee went, thence
 igsl, and his giibzgaput framed, au aol hrgiq yuk oll clta, aolti
 Tower where against
 to the aucly, colyl examinations were long in taking yngptza
 him. S. G. Rad' accused too L.
 ops. Then was z. n. ygk giibzlk auu, & soe should r.
 Wandesford Irish agents, or their articles
 cgtklzmuyk, if the pylpzo gnltoz, uy aolpy gyapirlz against
 him had come in tyme, ygttlrgno, wgyzutz, gtk Rumabz,
 cry and whine and take on S. G. Rad'
 was to iye gtk coptl gtk agql ut extremely to z. n. ygk, w^{ch}
 him and Rannelagh undon
 I heard he did before ops gtk ygttlrgno; saying, hee had btkut
 him not at his hands. Hamelton, Martial,
 ops, w^{ch} he deserved tua ga ops ogtkz. ogspraut, sgyagrv,
 and Vane procured Ran' into
 gtk bgtl wyuibilk his Ma^{ties} letters to bring ygttlrgno ptau
 England. Wandesford's heart br.
 llrngtk. Cgtklzmuyke ogya being hbuz with these things,
 make Parsons and Borlace Justices, and
 the labour was to sgql wgyzutz gtk huyrgzl, pbzapilz, gtk
 L. Dillon this Lord
 exclude late r. kprrut, whilst aopz ruyk should have been,
 Bolton and Louther has accused treason
 and huraut gtk rubaoly ogz giibzlum aylgzut, & soe on this
 the game the examinations
 side aol ngsl was sure; whilst aol ldgsptgapulz were takeing
 and all
 gtk grr visible that could appeare, & noe probability that mat-
 upon the articles
 ters would grow better, bwut aol said gyapirlz for them they
 would be proved
 fell into consideration (upon what they knew cubrk hll wyublk
 to two articles treason crime
 au acu gyapirlz, which only were aylgzut), what the iypsl
 was said treason no law for
 cgz. Some zgpk aylgzut; others that there was tu rgc muy

it extant make one for it.
 pa ldagta. Then wee will sgrl utl muy pa. Answered. Then
 others will hl pbknlk he pa. be judged by it. Nay, that may not be, says ano-
 ther; it must wlyzutgrr utre, & noe pbknl au pbknl bwut pa
 in cases. judge to judge upon it
 pt other igzly. That's hard, sayd others; ypk ops uba um aol
 way by a potion which was to worke it end
 cge he g wuaput, copio cgz au cuygl ya ltk in two or three
 businesses in examination.
 moneths; for soe long will we kepe hbzptlzzlz pt ldgsptgaput.
 Noe, says another way. Are you sure um aol
 people. Yes, was answered. Then teuzl upp some juswruaaptn
 noyse complotting
 betwixt him and the wgwppaz, and zagya bw every weeke
 Papists start up
 something tlc gngplza ops; and soe keep bw aol wluwrl.
 new against him; up the people.
 Hamelton, Marshall, Vane, Scotch faction,
 ogspraunt, sgyzogrr, bgtl, and the zivaio mgiaput, under-
 the King to a dead
 taking to bring aol qptn right whenever it came au augklgk
 lift, his trial from the Kings
 rpma, if the other failed, keep ops ayegrr myns aol qptus
 Bench, by of his Peers.
 hltio he a selected number um ops wlylyz. Let it be publike
 in Westminster Hall, Peere that
 pt clzasplzaly ogrr, where note every one wlyly or other agoa
 moves, for him, and affront
 sublz, publickly or privately, muy ops, gtk gmmmyuta them;
 discredit, to his Majesty, from
 kpziylkpaa all that bring any thing au ops sgplzae myus L.
 Str. threaten Commons of England to
 zaygm, and aoylgalt them wth the jussutz um ltnrgtk au fall
 them for with traytors.
 upon aols muy keeping correspondence cpao aygeaux. But
 Queene be off; and
 how must the xblrl hl brought um: doe you yourpart gtk
 leave the rest to Hamelton, Marshall, Vane, for
 zlgbl aol ylza au ogspraunt, sgyzogrr, bgtl, &c. muy done

it will be, though never ^{so much} ^{against} ^{the} ^{bill;} ^{by} ^{these}
^{practices} ^{Straf'} ^{dispatched.} ^{his} ^{upon} ^{the}
 wygiapilz L Zaygm kpzwgaiolk. And opz carriage bwut aol
^{stage} ^{moderate} ^{and} ^{just} ^{men,}
 zagnl having given full satisfaction to all suklygal gtk pbza slt,
 and soe the carriage of the businesse condemned ^{for} ^{most} ^{suza}
^{unjust.} ^{Rannelagh} ^{was} ^{S.} ^{G.} ^{Radc'} ^{to}
 btpbza, ygttlrgno egs imployed au z. n. ygkirpm au
^{inlargement} ^{set} ^{his} ^{hand} ^{to} ^a
 promise him ptrgynslta, &c. if hee would zla opz ogtk au g
^{petition,} ^{acknowledging} ^{his} ^{gnilt;} ^{if} ^{Ran}
 wlapaput, giqtucrlknptn opz nbpra; pm ygttlrgno could have
^{hee} ^{should} ^{have} ^{had} ^{or} ^{an} ^{Earldome}
 gained this oll zoubrok ogbl ogk 5000l. uy gt lguyrkusl for the
^{feate.} ^{blemished} ^{Straf'}
 mlgal. And then they would have hrlspzolk L Zaygm, which
^{King} ^{for} ^{Scotland}
 only was their ayme; for qptu then designing muy ziuargtk
^{the} ^{truth} ^{of} ^{their}
 they were fearfull aol aybao um this might have crossed aolpy
^{wayes,} ^{they} ^{upon} ^{them;}
 cgelz, w^{ch} aole thought then would be returned bwut aols,
^{of} ^{the} ^{Scots,} ^{and}
 feareing then what would become um aol zivaz, gtk w^{ch} way
^{they} ^{incline} ^{English} ^{Lords} ^{Gentry}
 aole would ptirptl, soe many of the ltnrpzo zuykz and pltaye
^{eye} ^{for} ^{the} ^{letter} ^{invited} ^{into}
 beeing under their lel muy aol rlaaly that ptbpalk them ptau
^{England.} ^{Romane} ^{Catholiks} ^{here} ^{by} ^{the}
 lturgtk. The yusgtl Igaourpqz olyl were taken of he aol
^{Queene} ^{from} ^{prosecuting,} ^{article}
 xbltl myus wyuzlibaput, & that of the 15th gyapirl was
^{here} ^{by} ^{Ran'} ^{Parsons,} ^{to} ^{Fitzgarret,}
 prepared olyl he ygttlrgno, wgyzutz, & sent au mpafngyyla,
^{him} ^{Comittee.} ^{Parsons} ^{himsel} ^{to}
 & by ops given to the juspaall. wgyzulz expressed opszlrm au
^{Rannelagh} ^{for} ^{now} ^{the} ^{Connaght}
 ygttlrgno that the bird was their owne, muy tue aol juttgno
^{Plantations} ^{were} ^{the} ^{Irish} ^{agents} ⁱⁿ
 wrgtagaotz clyl in their power, w^{ch} aol pypzo ggnltz pt

^{England} llhrgtk ^{and} ^{Ran} gtk ^{Loftus} ygttlgrno & ^{there} rumabz stood for aoly
^{great} soe exceedingly; of these nylga ^{proportions} wyuwuyaputz should have been
^{shared to themselves and} zogylk au aolzlrblz gtk their undertakers, ^{Marshall,} sgymogrr, &c.
^{Customs} The Ibzausz should have been put into aol ogtz um ^{the hands of} wgyzutz, ^{Parsons,}
^{Ran,} ygttlrgno, & rumabz, out of which ^{Say} zge & ^{Vane} bgtl ^{should} zoubrk
^{have had} ogbl ogk 10,000%. The ^{Tobac} Anhgiu ^{Monopoly} sutuware should have been
^{Hamelton's.} ogspraulz. ^{Parsons} wgyzutz should have been ^{Earl of} egyrl um ^{Wicklo,} cpiqru, w^{ch}
^{Stra} L. Zaygmmuyk aymed at. And here ^{you have that} cub ogbl aoga w^{ch} z.
^{Charles} iogyrlz ^{Coot} inna and ye ^{Roscomon} late l. yuziussut ^{S. George} told me z. nluyn
^{Wentworth} cltacuyao; and many ^{papers} wgwlyz I should have had, ^{if they had} pm aole ogk
^{lived,} rpblk, ^{to have proved the same.} abundantly au ogbl wynnblk aol zgsl.

Questions upon the E^l of Strafford's Defence.

1. Whether did not the Earl of Strafforde sitting the Parliam^t humbly desire and advise his Ma^{tie} might be pleased, by message to the House of Commons, to certifie his purpose to lay down ship money, and to give way the judgement in the Exchequer, might be reversed by writ of error before the Lords in Parliam^t? And did not his Ma^{tie} assent thereunto?

2. Did not the said Earl likewise humbly move his Ma^{tie} that his said offer to the Commons Howse ought not to be condic'onall, nor to insist upon twelve subsidies, but to put himself upon ther affecc'ons for his supply?

3. Did not S^r Henry Vane desire to understand his Ma^{ties} pleasure, whether he would not take less then twelve subsidies? And did not his Ma^{tie} then replie, he feared lesse would not serve his occations?

4. Did not the said Earl of Strafforde humbly move thereupon, that his Ma^{tie} would be graciously pleased to accept eight subsidies? Did not his Ma^{tie} assent thereunto? And did not the said Earle sitting down (in your hearing) wish they would give but sixe, or words to that effect?

5. Was not thereupon commission given to the said S^r Henry Vane to signifie such his Ma^{ties} pleasure to the House of Com'ons to accept eight subsidies?

6. Whether had not his Ma^{tie} declared his purpose for dissolving the Parliam^t before the Earle of Strafford's coming into the Counsell Chamber? And whether, upon his coming afterwards, did the said Earle humbly desire his Ma^{tie}, that before his Ma^{tie} resolved hereupon, there Lo^{ps} there in Counsell might debate the same before his Ma^{tie}, did not his Ma^{tie} assent thereunto?

7. Did not the Earl of Strafforde humbly move, that the opinion of such of the Counsell there p'sent, as were Members of the Commons Howse, should be heard, declaring he would

not adventure to deliver any opinion till he had heard them, and the reasons wherefore.

8. What thereupon was the opinion of the said S^r Henry Vane? And whether had not he voted for a breach before the said Earle gave his vote? And in what words and manner did the said S^r Henry Vane express himself therein?

9. Did not the said S^r Henry Vane absolutely declare, that there was no hope the Com'ous Howse of Parliam^t would give one penny, or words to that effect?

34.

S^r GEORGE,

3d July, 1641.

'Tis something yet, in the midst of soe many disasters, that the fury of men is so much abated, as to give you respite to read letters from your friends. Among those, I am my particular engaged in the highest degree, to signifie (especially on such opportunity as this), my most affectionate service unto you, who, being the only survivor now of those my greatest and nearest freinds, may justly challenge from me a united and trebled respect towards yourselfe. Our vessell hath perished in the storme; but it will be a great mitigation of our losses, if you, that have, and are still tossed in y^e same

waves, may arrive safe at the Port, which happinesse there is none doth attend with more devout and fervent desires then

Your most affectionate kinsman and servant,

W. RABY.

° Alcinore, y^e 3^d of July, 1641.

Sir George Radcliffe.

[*Indorsed by Sr G. R. Lo' Raby, re 13. 5. 41. My wife and myne answeere 1641, July 3.*]

35.

MY LORDE,

1641.

It is nowe reported here, that the Kinge will be returned out of Scotland very shortly, and then I hope to have the honor to see y^r Lo^p; for I conceive it most requisite that y^r Lo^p should come to kisse his Ma^{ties} handes; and as well to give him thanks for his favours already conferred upon y^u, as to be an humble suitor for some things intended and promised, but not yet performed. In the meane tyme, I send y^r Lo^p herewth enclosed a copy of the last entercourse y^t passed betwene y^r blessed father and me. The originall I kept by me as a reliq of greate esteeme. Thereby y^r Lo^p may in part collect what duety I owe to y^u and y^r family, and what interest y^u may justly challenge in me, both my Lordes last

° It appears that Lord Raby had withdrawn himself beyond seas, on the attainer of his father, and was then at Elsinore.

trust and my owne dedication of myselfe to your service. You will not finde my name in any of the Grants that have lately passed from the Crowne for y^r Lo^p benefit; yet it was in all my Lord's directions; nor shall y^r Lo^p, nor any of his, ever want my most endeavours, indeed all that I am, or have, or can, to approve myself, my Lorde,

Y^r Lo^p most humble and most affectionate servant,

G. R.

Aug. 31, 1641.

My Lo' Raby.

36.

MY DEAR LORD,

1642.

I HUMBLY thank y^r Lo. for y^r letter; and for y^r civility, by S^r Tho^s Mainwaringe^p, w^{ch} his forgetfulness had almost lost, but he retrived a little before I received y^r l^re. It is more then I ought to expect from y^u: and therefore I beseech yo^r Lo^p use yo^r freedome of writinge or not writinge unto me without scruple or excuse. Though yet to y^r friends that are lesse obliged, the returninge of answeres to l^res is a ceremony w^{ch} the custome of the world hath made necessary, and seldome omitted wthout being construed a neglect. But, for my part, I am so farre from thinkinge so, as that I rather take it as an

^p Lord Strafford's Secretary, whose portrait appears, with that of his Lord, in the celebrated painting by Vandyke at Wentworth House. The expression of both countenances is highly characteristic. Strafford appears to be dictating an angry letter, and Mainwaring to be affrighted with the contents.

argument of y^r confidence, y^t y^u doe not observe such punctilios wth me. My Lo., I did not conceive that either of y^r uncle or aunt did move yo^r Lo^p to have yo^r ^a; nor if they had done it, were it to be faulted in them. There are many causes why they may justly desire if it stand otherwise wth yo^r Lo^p's conveniency, and the good of y^r sisters; and in truth I thinke my Lady Wentworth very able and fit to breed them. Yet I doe believe, that y^r sister Anne hath been persuaded to desire her owne livinge at Woodhouse, not onely out of her owne inclinations (though also in part), but by the solicitations of some others. One inconvenience there is, w^{ch} I have not mentioned hitherto; because it may loose me the favour of some, and I well see not how for the present to help the thing.

But my faith to yo^r Lo^p may concept y^r Lo^p hath need of friends, and the hope of yo^r alliance does make yo^r Lo^p considerable, and some persons of eminency wil be ready to doe y^u good offices in references thereunto, and some will be more unwillinge to oppose yo^r Lo^p, least thereby they may draw others upon them, whom they are not willinge to offende. My Lo. Viscount Loftus hath printed his case, and therein set downe to the worlde y^t y^r father concluded a marriage for yo^r Lo^p with his grandchilde, w^{ch} he would make a reason why my Lo. y^r father was not a competent judge, beinge interessed thereby, and so a party. This I know, as much as a man can know of

^a A word omitted.

a negative, to be untrue: that (what propositions soever were formerly made) yet there was no conclusion nor agreement about any such thinge. Yet how farre this may seeme to be confirmed by M^{rs} A. Loftus her living at Woodhouse, and how much prejudice her being there is to yo^r Lo^p, with all your mother's friends, and many others (who wish yo^r Lo^p well, and some of them may doe you good or hurt in many accidents w^{ch} concern y^u), y^r Lo^p may judge y^rselfe: for my part, both I and others of y^r nerest servants doe very much apprehende it. And to confesse the truth to y^r Lo^p, this was the principall grounde w^{ch} made me desire to desolve y^r family at Woodhouse; though I thought that the consideration of y^r profit, and the satisfaction of creditors (who looke strangely to see a great house kept there for two young ladyes, when no debts are paid, nor as yet so much as interest) were causes sufficient to perswade it. And now, my Lord, I have opened myself unto y^u, and I beseech y^u, let it be to y^u alone: allthough I confesse I have said as much to Sr W^m Savile (and hee to mee) and to Mr. Raylton: and I conceive y^t they are both of my minde. I was in hope to have gained my liberty, and had y^e meanes to have waited on y^u: but as the world goes, I may not move, but must expect wth quietnes for better dayes and opportunities; therefore I write that now briefly, w^{ch} is not so fit for a letter; but should have bene told y^u by word of mouth more fully. I shall ever deale wth y^r Lo^p wth the same freedome

w^{ch} I used to y^r father, and as I desire my best friends to deale wth mine.

Mr. Raylton is very diligent in y^r busines : and there are few dayes passe over him wherein he doth not some things concerning it. The Allomes, the rescusant revenue, the debts, Mr. Slyngesbyes account, receipt and payments of money, Farington's brangles (for so they are) and a world of other little thinges, doe make him more worke than a man that sees it not could well imagine ; indeed, yo Lo^p hath no body that makes y^r business his owne, soe much as he doth : and it doth require a whole man. He deserves to be cherished and encouraged ; for, if he were not, yo^r Lo^p would finde a great want of him. Accounts doe much confounde him ; he will be very hardly drawn to undertake them. I conceive, the best way will be to make him an allowance for a man under him ; and so I hope he will continue it : some little charge it will be to yo^r Lo but better so then much worse. If y^r Lo^p approve it, I will treat with him.

George Carre is now ready to goe for Irelande, and he will waite on y^r Lo^p as he goes : I shall co'mende the case of y^r evidences to him, to keepe or send them over, as he sees more or lesse danger. And here, my Lord, I cannot hold, but tell you that I do exceedingly approve of y^t judgement ; as in another part I doe as much co'mende your respective affection to your sister, as a thinge w^{ch} would extreamly have contented your father, and does very much become y^u.

My Lo^d, I did ever believe y^t report of w^{ch} I writt to Tho^s Radcliffe to be most vaine, and I am glad to have my beliefe so confirmed. I remember what yo^r Lordship told me, when y^u was last here, concerninge yo^r carriage towards y^r servants, upon occasion of something w^{ch} your uncle spoke; and I dare trust your governm^t of yo^rselfe therein. This a good occasion to strengthen y^r resolution, y^u will naturally have stronge affections, leadinge you either to pleasure or anger. It is a very great part of true nobilitye, & wisdome, & piety, to moderate y^r passions, w^{ch} y^t y^u may ever doe, God Almighty be y^r guide and assistance.

Y^r Lo.

most humble servant,

G. R.

10 Junii, 1642.

[Indorsed, Copy. To my Lo. of Strafford, 10. 4. 42.
1642. June 10th. G. R. Geo. Radcliffe.]

*Letters from the Lord Deputy Wandesford to Sir George
Radcliff^a.*

1.

GOOD COOSIN,

SEEING my occasions are like to kepe me longer from you than I expected when I left you, by reason of my going to Charache to christen the yong sunne, which my Lady hath newly borne ; I present you with this hasty remembrance of myself and service. I send you this enclosed from my Lo' of Ormond, which I received this night. Father Roach and I drinke your health hartily: he is a good Preist, I am certaine a good fellowe. I desire you presente my service to my Lady, I hope by this tyme she is perfectly recovered. All

^a Sir Christopher Wandesford, who had been constituted by his relation Lord Strafford, Master of the Rolls in Ireland, on the Lord Lieutenant's last return to England was made Deputy in his place. He seems to have been a man of lively and variable spirits, unable to bear his Lord's misfortunes, and the apprehension of his own, with the fortitude of Radcliffe. From an hint in the preceding cypher, he appears to have died of a broken heart during Lord Strafford's imprisonment.

health and happyness to you both! The Vice Treasurer gave my Lo' a very noble entertainment.

Farwell, your most affectionate
Coosin and faithfull servant,
CHR. WANDESFORDE.

Catherlo, March 26, 1636.

HON'BLE COOSIN,

2.
We still complayne for want of your letters; all we have of your journey is, that you left Chester on Whitsun Munday. All your friendes here (I thanke God) kepe there health: the Chiefe Baron is gone hoame to be cared for by his wife, after the fall out of his coach, whereof I advertised you in my last; but he wilbe here shortly. We remember you every meale deuly; therefor se you continue knocking still upon your trencher. My Lady and the children are very well and chereful; all things shall be done to kepe thom so, by my consent. I refer you, Sr, to my Lords letters, myne will be but drowlinge. The tow sisters are att Castle Jordan; Sir Geordge come from them for the present, and is with us. I am angry with you that you have given me no more chardge over any thing that may concern your private, for I will burthen you wth myne, I warrant you that. I have given my Lo' Deputy a relation of my business of Edough; tell me how you like itt;

and deliver this I pray you to the Captayne att some fitt opportunitye, it is not ment he should kepe it secret. You will se how forwardly your Chaplain Harris hath engaged us, but we are come of upon the point of logike and philosophye, perswading the poore Fryar (who ducked under the table for feare) that his learning was reported to be so greate, that there might be some dainger of his overthrowing, with his scollers, the antyent grounds of logicke and philosophye layde by Aristotle and others; but he seriously affirmed, that he intended noe such thing, he only made use of Thomas Aquinas wthout any newe pretensions of his owne. Well, Sir, God be with you, and kepe you in healthe, and lett your friendes here from you: among them none desyres it more then

Your most affectionate coosin and faithfull freind,

CHR. WANDESFORDE.

June 22, 1636.

3.

GOOD COOSIN,

If you pay me the 100^l. as well as you discharged that which you call debt for my letters by this of yours, I will profess you deale better with me than olde John did; indeede, I hope you have bestowed your money well; the land, I thinke, is good; I am sure it lyes in a good part of the cuntry; much happinesse may yourself and others have of it. I have, by Carrwell's consent, made an assignment of my recognisance to Alderman Hoyle. Let me know what I am to require of Carrwell, and I will procure it, if I can, for your satisfaction. I thanke you heartilye for your conference with Wells; I hope att last it will come to your observation, for she will not part with her daughter into Ireland; we will putt her to itt, George shall try his courtship, to loose the wench and gett the monyes. Whatt I writte of Mr. Carr, I protest, the man deserves, and a thousand times more, for I holde him very worthy of great estimation and incurragement. Is itt not a straundge thing you are so reserved in your journeys? All the worlde here knowes of my Lord's going to Court, and believes his Lo' cannot kepe his tyme att Chester. We are (by way of composition) to intreat to give his Lordship one moneth more yett; and some feares your noble honor will come over first, and then they say, his L^{ps} glory will be during pleasure.

Wheare are you nowe? Well, I wish you well of the yellowe rocke, and then all is done; and to say truth itt is hard you should strike there still. Sir, you have a fyne life of this, for your parte: you ryde up and downe, and takes your pleasure, every bodye courts you, and here we are pushing in businesse all the day long. What we doe in the Cuntry my Lo. Deputy will tell you. Farewell. God send us a happy meeting! Yours,

CHR. WANDESFORDE.

*To the Right Hon. Sir Geo. Radcliffe,
of His Majesties Privy Council in Ireland.*

4.

GOOD COSEN,

June 23d, 1638.

WE nowe expect the good newes of your safe arrival, w^{ch} will be most welcome to every bodye here. I have enclosed that paper I mentioned; if there be cause we may use itt. Give me leave to put you in mynde of speaking to Mr. Rayleton about Mr. Browne's second payment for the Potts, for his agents here have promised the moneyes shall be payde to Mr. Rayleton out of hand; you will thinke fitte to quicken Mr. Browne all you can, for there is cause for itt. If the busyness of Idough come in your waye, I am most confydent you will be myndefull of itt; and if you can hansomly learne whether certayne men, especially one Richard Butler, employed by the natives as agents, be attending upon Arundel House for a dispatch, or what Petition they have exhibited

against me touching that busyness; you shall doe me a favor to tell me what you heare, for some incurragement they have, though I thinke without ground. We here are as you left us. I do assure you we remember you hartly; and every tyme I wayted upon my Lord I offered his L^p to remember you in a glasse of wyne to my Lady your wife. Honest Geordge, farewell. My compliment is this truth, that I pray for thy health and safe returne most hartly; and that I am and will ever be (as we promised one to another, without all vanity in words) till death

Thy affectionate faithful cosen and freind,

June 23, 1638. CHR. WANDESFORDE.

GOOD COSEN,

June 31st, 1638.

I MAKE use of the first messenger that goes from us, but, perhaps, not the first that may come to you, this will come so sloulye. We are all glad to hear of your safe arrival. By this tyme I suppose you will be ryddy to returne something to us. Since you wente no worde of petition from the Ch. though Carter brought his Lor^p the newes of the former letter, only the Lord Prymate from his L^p desyred to knowe of my Lo. Dep. what signification was come to his L^{ps} handes for his enlargement; it was answered, when that was sented for in a fittinge way he should be resolved. Mr. Harpoll's cause

was heard, and ordered, upon Thursday last, for the damages to be payde, for the first year, after olde Mr. Harpoll's death, by the 2 administrators of Dr. Metcalfe, Sir Ed^{wd}, and the other, whose name I forget, joyntly, but by Sir E^d alone for the remaining 4 years and a halfe; at the latter parte after the rate of 300 *per annum*, and after 250 for the first yeare, with abatement of the King's rents. Within 10 dayes the other cause about the maintenance and the rest will be heard: you know what I meane. Was it not an incivill part for my Lo. Dep. to come to dyne with your wife at Ramynes, and she never newe a title of itt till his Lo. was within the court? and for all that there was nothing out of order for want of notice. Then we remembred you in your owne wyne, and shall be very like to serve you such another tricke. My cosen tooke colde that night you went, which trubled her head for 2 or 3 dayes. Sir Richard Scott not being better since you left him, the drums and guns will not suffer him to rest; to avoyd the noyce he is gone to lodge with Sir Thomas Rotherham. The appearance and condition of the army is in all respects to every man's satisfaction. My Lo. hath appointed since you went these newe officers: the E. of Ormond, Lieu.-Gen. of the Horse; Sir Francis Willogby, Sergeant-Maior of the Field; Sir Ch. Coote, Ser.-Maior of the Horse. This last gave some offence to the 2 Presydents, that they being both Generalls in their owne governmente should be commanded by him; but my Lo. Dep. instantly ordered it to their full contentments,

that all is well, by appointing them both to attend about his L^{ps} person in the fiede, and to be subject to no directions but from his L^p. There is nothing else but ordinary. God kepe you in good helthe, and returne you safe and well to us agayne, w^{ch} no man living shall be more glad to see then, &c. &c. &c. &c.

CHR. WANDESFORDE.

Dublin, June 31, 1638.

6.

GOOD COSEN,

June 12, 1640.

Yesterday, about 6 in the afternoone, Mr. Attorney^r dyed. This morning my Lo. Lowther and myself perused his will, by w^{ch} yourself and we too are appointed executors. The provysyon for his ladye we fynde to be as you related to me. We have given order, with the advice of my coosen your lady, for his decent buriall; the further ordering of all thinges we shall reserve till your cumming. The proceedings in the H. of Commons I have desyred my Lo. Dillon to relayte to you, by wh^{ch} you will fynde that (notwithstanding the good order you left them in) they grow worse and worse every day; nether hath these late debaytes concerning the declaration bene prosecuted by the Irish onelye, but those of

^r Richard Osbaldeston, formerly benchet of Gray's Inn, appointed to that office in 1636.

K K

our owne partye (as we call them) have joyned apparently with them; forasmuch as Serjeant Sandbadg (one of the 5 appointed to drawe the declaration) was left alone in his modest opinion for the Kinge; the Recorder and . . . joyning with the other side. This draught here inclosed is the same w^{ch} the House presents to me; and as I understand upon a long debayte in the House, this day, the style of this is much more moderate than that other w^{ch} was tendred to the House by that Comitte. My Lo. Dillon, the Serjeant, and some fewe others, by their strong contestation, in a Committee of the whole House, obtayning this alteration to the better, I purpose to take tyme till to-mor'we to returne them answere to their declaration; and after I have advised with the Councill in the morninge, to appoynt the whole House to come to me in the presence. The declaration itself, as it is penned, I do not think fitt to give way unto; and therefore I could have wished that I might have spoken to the House before this was delivered to me as a thinge agreed upon, w^{ch} directions I gave to the King's councell in that House this morning; for now I must ether break of this meeting in displeasure (and by that meanes hazard the tymely cuming in of the subsidyes), or give waye to this ill presydent against the crowne, which is a thinge I may not doe. Howsoever, they grow so intemperate that they must and shall be dissolved one way or other, and that upon Munday next. We nowe fynde your absence in the House, and weare not the cause of the Kinge supported by my

Lo. Dillon, I know not what would become of us. I pray you communicate these thinges as you fynde opportunity with my Lord Lieu^t, whom I forbear to trouble when you know how to represent thinges more seasonablye. God Almightye restore his L^p to health ! Prayer is nowe all the service we can performe. Yester night my Lo. of Ormond writt to me, to know whether he should goe now with the fote to Knockfargus. I called a councill of war betymes this morning, and returned him answere, that itt was fitt, according to my Lord's first order, the Lord Presydent should have the care of y^t army untill either my Lo. Lieu. the Earle of Ormond, or the Master of the Ordnance, came thither. The Master would have gone nowe, but we stayer him till the munition be sente, wh^{ch} we resolve shall be there about the beginning of July, and then he must commande in chiefe there. Let us know how my Lo. Dep. takes this matter. My service to my Lo. Dep.^s the ladyes, and Sir G. Wentworth. Farwell.

Your affectionate coosin and faithful servant,
CHR. WANDESFORDE.

Dublin, June 12, 1640.

^s Wandesford, I believe, was now Lord Deputy himself, but gave that style to Strafford, whom he had before called Lord Lieutenant, from inadvertence and habit.

7.

GOOD COOSEN,

June 21, 1640.

I AM glad to heare you gott so tymely and safely to your journey's ende. The good newes of my Lo^{ds} recovery bringes much comfort to us all. The Bishop of Derry^t, in the name of the Convocation House, was a sutor to myself and the Boarde since you went away, that there might be a fast appointed here: this I undertook to advertise. I pray you signifye his Majestie's pleasure to us, and what instructions shal bee performed then. I consulted the Bishop, as you advised, concerninge the actes w^{ch} passed; and he assures me there is nothings in them preiudiciall to his Maj^y. It is not amisse you should knowe that, after the Convocation here had appoynted the Archbishop of Tuam to procede to the execution of the sentence against the Bishop of Killalo^u, his suffragan, the Abp. shewed me a letter written by my Lord Primate in favor of the condemned B^p, desyring the Abp. to suspend the execution of that sentence, in case he were required to doe it, before any directions came from my Lo. Lieu^t in the behalfe of the Bishop; and this Archb^p was desirous to have gayned some directions from me to that purpose; but upon consulting it with the Boarde I refused to intermeddle in it, w^{ch} answere I gave after I understode by my Lo. of Derry that the execu-

^t Bramhall.

^u This is the spelling of the original: but Adair was Bishop, not of Killaloe, but Killala.

tion of that sentence was directed from that syde. And nowe being in hande with B^{ps}, if you will reade a petition exhibited by the party himself, Chylde, to the Commons House, against the Bishop of Waterford^x, you will, as all civil men do here, blush when you see what stuff is in itt. The House appointed that petition to be delivered to me by a Committee, with this request, that I would put it in a legal course. That part of the army appoynted to mete here kept there tyme, and very neare theire number: no complaint follows them. But some litel mistakes there be by some of the officers concerninge there voluntyres, w^{ch} will be very easily rectified; and I hope this parte of the action accordingly will procede by my Lord's appointment. Upon consyderation of the chandge, ether way, the Master of the Ordnance resolves (and it seems to me the better) that the munition be kept in the shipp still (for they have drawne itt all into one ship), and not brought into the magasine. To-morrow they begin to ship the rest of the provysions, which are yet in the stores, and will be gone soe soone as they can be ryddye. They have pressed 700 tunn of shipping for this service. Mr. Speaker hath most importunately moved me to take care of him upon this alteration that he may not be the Kinge's attorney; this request is granted by me, and I hope you will see it performed. In truth, I never met with so serious and harty expression in my life as he used

^x Atherton—a disgrace to his order and to human nature. The story is too well known.

to avoyde the place; he gives me no reason but his debilitye to performe it, but what other ende he hath I know not; in this I dare sweare, he is in earnest: I hope I may have libertye to secure him from this feare. My Lord Montgomery desires leave to transport his ladye hither, and deserves my paynes to procure his sute to my Lo. for he hath delt like a gentleman with me: for when he moved me to do itt, at the same tyme he tould me, that Mr. Carr had alryddy signified my Lorde's pleasure that it could not be granted; but I pray you knowe my Lo's resolution in this particular, and give me power to do it if his L^p grant the request. If it were a tyme to truble you with personal observations, would you not think it strandge that in that debayte, which was often handled at the Board, concerninge this layte declaration, there was not above 3 of those gentⁿ that spoke to the Deputye. I am obliged to doe every man right. The assistance I have had from my Lo. Dillon hath bene performed with all constancye, and wth singular advantage to his Majestye; for had he not struggled dextrouslye in the house after you were gone for the Kinges honor, we had lost to much of that, or all the subsidyes. I thanke you for your intelligence, I am glad you hope for monyes. God increase my Lo. strength, and kepe you in health. Farwell. Your most affectionate coosen and faithfull freind,

CHR. WANDESFORDE.

Dublin, June 21, 1640.

8.

GOOD COOSEN,

June 29, 1640.

THE condition of things here you will finde in myne to my Lord Lieut. I thanke you for yours of the 23d, and am glad my Lo. goes on in his healthe, though I am sorry the cure is but slowe; the freeing him from company is a good worke in you. You will heare what the Vice-Treasurer speakes of the slowness of cumming-in of monyes. I thinke the care he hath of the revennewe makes him full as apprehensive of the matter as there is cause. I pray you kepe your worde for returninge as sone as you cann. I will advertise the Bishop of Derry what you say. The B^p of Waterford is yett upon securitye: here be fewe who pittie him. I must watch that he have a fair and just-proceeding, or else it will go the worse with him^y. Good cosen, farwell. God send us a happye meeting! Your most affectionate coosen, and faithfull freind to serve you,

CHR. WANDESFORDE.

Dublin, June 29, 1640.

^y It is a part of Justice to protect the vilest Criminals either from being condemned, in the legal phrase of Scotland, "upon habit and repete," or from suffering by the effects of popular indignation. How different was Wandesford's conduct towards this wretch, from that of the Parliament to Strafford! The one interposes to preserve a man notoriously guilty from the effects of irregular zeal: the other procure a sentence of death to be passed on an innocent person, by encouraging the clamours of a mob.

After Wandesford's last letter there is a chasm, in the collection, of seven years. At the date of the first of the following papers, Radcliffe had withdrawn himself into France; and his Lady, as the wife of a delinquent, was subsisting as well as she was able on her fifths. At the date of the second, she had undergone a short imprisonment, probably on suspicion of being concerned in some plot of the King's friends.

1.

WE whose names are underwritten, by vertue of the ordinance of Parliament of the Com'ittee for the seizinge and sequestringe the Estates of Delinquents within the Citie of Yorke and Countie of the same, doe thinke fitt, and hereby doe order and allowe, unto Dame Ann Radcliffe, wife of Sir George Radcliffe, Knight; and Thomas Radcliffe, her son; the fifth p'te of the landes and estate of the said George Radcliffe, in the Citie of Yorke and Countie of the same, for and towards their mayntenance. And doe require the sequestrators there, and all those whom itt may concerne, to take notice

hereof, and suffer the same to be enjoyed by them or their assignees accordingly.

Dated the 24th of Feb. Anno Dom. 1647^z.

T. WIDDRINGTON. THO. HOYLE^a.

2.

15th Nov. 1650.

By the Com'ite for the Militia of the County of Yorke.

IN regard the Lady Radcliffe hath entered securitie (according to an order made yesterday) to appeare before the Counsell of State, or the Militia of the County of Yorke, and shall acte nothing prejudiciall to the Com'on Wealth of

^z This and the following document are published merely for the purpose of showing how cruelly the innocent families of Delinquents were harassed by the unfeeling Ministers of Republican Tyranny.

^a Alderman Hoyle, "one of the Burgesses for York in that infamous long Parliament, who, upon the same day of the month of January, and as near as possible on the same hour of the day on which the Royal Martyr suffered the day before, took occasion to do that justice on himself, which the times denied him, by hanging himself at his house in Westminster."

Drake's Eboracum, p. 172. On this occasion the Royalists failed not to apply the old distich:

"Vive diu, felix arbor, semperque vireto

Frondebis, ut nobis talia poma feras."

L L

England ; itt is therefore ordered, that the Provost Marshall shall sett the Lady Radcliffe at libertye.

RIC. ROBINSON. JOHN SAVILE.

FR LASCELLES.

RA. RYMER^b.

3.

BROTHER,

I UNDERSTAND by a friend in England, that Ric. Elmhurst is in suit with one Stewart, a sotish Irishman, abt the Mannors of Colton and Fairburne ; and I imagine that may be the reason, why he has foreborne now a good while to write unto me. So as right be done, it is not greatly material to me who prevailes in this suit ; in regard that I must pay them both their demands, what matters it who be first paid ? But it may concerne you or yours to know how the case stands betwixt Richard and me, because, next after my sonne, y^r wife is heire to the lande. Thus therefore it is : when I bought these lands I had some money at my command in Ireland, which I

^b One of the leaders in the Northern insurrection, called Farneley Wood Plot, A. D. 1663 ; in which year he was executed at York. I take this opportunity of stating, in justice to the memory of Lord Clarendon, and even of Secretary Bennet, for whose posthumous reputation I am much less concerned, that I am possessed of a MS. containing the Examinations of the Leaders in this Plot, which clearly justify the Ministry in clapping up Colonel Hutchinson, the hero of a very popular modern publication, after the Act of Indemnity.

was desirous to bestow in England. But for the present, wanting in England some parte of what I was to pay Alderman Hoyle for Coulton, Ric. Elmhurst procured for me 2000*l.* and some odde money; w^{ch} he might the more willingly trust mee wth, because I had moneys in Ireland, out of which I could repay this debt in a very few moneths. In the mean tyme I was content, and gave order that these two mannors should be bought in his name, joined to another friend, whom I named for myselfe: so as the moyety thereof should be security for him, as well for that summe of 2000*l.* and odde moneys, as alsoe for whatsoever other debts and accompts (as there was one considerable accompt) for which hee stood engaged for me and as my surety. Besides, in recompence of his former service I promised to procure for him an office in Yorke, which I made accompt would coste me 500*l.* When I came into Ireland, after the purchase of Coulton, my Lo. of Strafford made me join with him in a bargain whereof my parte cost me 17,500*l.* (a bargain which, if the tymes had been good, was likely to have been of great advantage; but these troubles in that kingdome have occasioned me losse more then I am willing to mention). This occasion took up all my money, and brought me into a great debt, w^{ch} presseth me to this houre; yet I was the less troubled for Ric. Elmhurst, because I knew he was well secured; and therefore providinge for suche debts as were like to urge me more, I never paid unto him any part of the forementioned 2000*l.* and odde moneyes; but I still justly owe it, neither have I cleared myne

accompt for w^{ch} he is bounde, nor satisfied him that 500*l*. w^{ch} I was to have layed oute for y^e office, or in case the office could not be had, he was to have the money; for all w^{ch} he hath not, nor ever had, any other security than the moyetyes of the mannors aforesaid. I confesse that I have not bene fully satisfied with his estraneging himself from me these late yeares; yet, having formerly trusted him much, I never found him but an honest man: and I will not believe otherwise of him till I see the contrary. However it becomes me to doe him and all them right, w^{ch} is the reason why I write thus much to y^u, not knowinge how soone it may concerne you; for I finde age and infirmitys come fast upon me, increased with want and many crosses, w^{ch} dayly put me in mind of my mortality. My sonne hath his healthe reasonable well, I thank God! yet he is not of that strength of constitution w^{ch} I once hoped for; for since his coming into France he was much inclininge to a consumption: some remedy he hath found for it, but we are not wholly freed from that feare. I shall be very glad to heare of my sister's good health and y^{rs}. I pray y^u co'mend my love and service to her, and God blesse all y^r children. Your very affectionate brother and servant,

Rouen, $\frac{8}{18}$ Mar. 164 $\frac{7}{8}$.

GEO. RADCLIFFE.

*For Mr. John Hodgson^c, at Beeston Parke,
neere Leeds in Yorkshire.*

^c John Hodgson, of Beeston, com. Ebor. gent. compounded for 340*l*. He is buried in Beeston Chapel, in the parish of Leeds, where a monument to his memory still remains.

4.

[A Monsieur Monsieur Le Chevalier George Radcliffe,
à Paris.]

SIR,

April 1, 1655.

I WAS willing to expect this last post from Holland before I answered y^r of the 25 of March, but I have now received myne brothers letters by this post, wherein he advertized me that hee doth not yet see any provision for the payment of that money in Holland, but thinkes I should rather endeavor to git myn^d satisfaction heere, w^{ch} enforceth mee to have recourse to my Lord Hatton and yourselfe, and to desire you both to take some present course for the paym^t of the money either at Paris or Seize; for truely I have now noe hope to gett it in Holland, since it appears that Mr. Webster hath no order, or at least noe money to satisfy it there. I shal hartely wish the king al prosperity in his affairs, and ever remaine,

S^r, y^r affectiond servant,GUILL^m SCOTT^e.

At Rouen, the 1 of April 1655.

^a Dutch.

^e I suspect this person to have been of the family of the Scotts of Buccleuch, one branch of whom fixed in Holland; and, in the person of Apollonius Scott, rose to considerable rank in that country. Bishop Burnet married, while in exile, a daughter of this branch.

5.

SIR,

April 15, 1655.

Y^{rs} of the 7th of this moneth was not delivered unto mee before y^e 13. All that I can say in answer to it is this, that you have all the reason in the world to expect y^e money; that y^u having given us the time w^{ch} we desired, I cannot presse you any farther. I am not able to paye the money myselfe; but I am and ever will bee ready to leave my body in pawne to lye in prison untill I procure for you full satisfaction. This I told you at first, and this I will make good, being well assured that either the king^f or some other of my friendes will find meanes to disengage mee ere it bee longe; and upon this confidence I offered you my bonde when it was not required of me; for seeing you lent the money wth soe much kindnesse, and soe seasonably in respect of oure wants at that time, I shal cheerfully submitt myselfe to any extremity rather than y^u shall loose one farthing by us. Y^u may bee sure that I shall not faile to sollicite my friendes herein; and I have that assurance from them, that I cannot doubt but

^f It is evident from the mention of the King's name, that the large sum for which Sir George Radcliffe was harassed, had been borrowed for his Master's service. It was, in all probability, the immediate cause of his death; for I can assign no other reason for his journey to Helvoetsluys, where he died, but an anxiety to settle this affair. Old paralytic constitutions are little able to endure long journeys and change of climate.

the money will come, although much weightier business hath
soe taken up their thoughts of late, as hath occasioned some
delay of this.

Whensoever y^u call on mee I will yield myself y^r prisoner,
and shall ever acknowledge your past kindness unto

Y^r affectionate servant,

G. R.

Paris, April 15, 1655.

6.

[A Monsieur Monsieur le Chevalier Ratcliff, Gentilhomme
Anglois, à Paris.]

SIR,

May 20, 1655.

Your first l^rtre (w^{ch} had one inclosed in it from
Dr. Hammond^e) that you were pleased to honour me with, I
never saw; the miscarriage I heartily regret, as well for the
losse of such a testimonie of y^r favour, as for that w^{ch} came
from my soe worthie friend. Your last of Apr. 30 I received
on Tuesday from Mr. Hardeing, who could not readilie tell me
how it came to his hands; but the opinion hee most enclined
to was, that he had it from Dr. Creighton^h. I am now at Am-
sterdam for the endeing of that affaire, and have finisht it in
this manner: the money is paide to Mr. Everard Scott, the

g Radcliffe always stood well with the Church Party; and I rejoyce in the
discovery that he numbered Dr. Hammond among his friends.

^h Afterwards Bishop of Bath and Wells.

bills of protest and the bills of exchange taken in, w^{ch} is, they say, as ample discharge as any can bee. I shewed Mr. Bridgemanⁱ, a skilful and honest gentleman, to whom I have been much obliged for his helpe in this business; what y^u writt ab^t an acquittance to bee attested by a publique notarie^k; and hee advised mee that I should not presse Mr. Scott for a discharge soe unnecessarie, that being not soe well understood here amongst the merchants of this place as itt is usuall in England, and besides, because if Mr. Scott should intend to deale ill, which hee is not like to doe, it would not bee in his power; nott onlie because the taking in of these bills is a discharge sufficient, but likewise because Mr. Bridgman has entered the payment into a booke of publique recorde, from whence prooffe may be sought at anie time if it bee needful. This opinion Mr. Bridgeman was soe constant in after my moveing of y^r desire more than once, that I could not contest the matter; but if after all the Lord Hatton and you bee not satisfyed upon the least notice given to him, hee will procure you any satisfaction that you wish.

I suppose you have heard how my pretty deare master has been usd here by the States of Holland; they passed an order for the sending him out of theyre dominions; and Fryday last he begann his journey for Cologn. I stayd behinde in order to my goinge into England, where I have had busi-

ⁱ Afterwards, I suppose, the Lord Keeper Bridgeman.

^k Something wanting.

ness this long while, and have this season allowed mee as the fittest to look after it. About the ende of next weeke, perhaps, I shall goe, and returne soe soone as I have finisht what I goe about. If there or any where else I meete wth the opportunity, I shall always bee willing and glad to performe the offices of

Y^r most humble and most faythful serv^t,

R. LOVELL¹.

Amsterda', May 20, 1655.

Be pleased, I beseech you, to present my most humble service to my Lord Hatton.

7.

[For Mr. Radcliffe.]

COZEN,

June 27.

You doe mee but right in beleeveing mee much concearned for y^r father's death, w^{ch} I should sooner have con-
doled wth you, but y^t I apprehended adding to yo^r griefe by
mentioning it too early. I beseech you convey this enclosed
to yo^r mother, and doe me y^e favour as you at any time passe

¹ Tutor to the Duke of Gloucester, "an honest man," as Lord Clarendon calls him, "by whose means the Duke was well taught in the learning fit for his years, and well instructed in the principles of Religion." Hist. Reb. vol. III. p. 409.

into Yorkshire to lett us see you heer, where you will find a
real welcome from my Lord, and cozen,

Y^r very affect'at cozen, and humble servant,

ANNE ROCKINGHAM^m.

I beseech you present my sister Arabella and my Lord's
service, with mine, to my cozen Trappes. My sister and my
Lord are yo^r servants.

■ Lady Anne Wentworth, eldest daughter of the Earl of Strafford, married to Edward Watson second Lord Rockingham, through whom Wentworth • Woodhouse, and the other unsettled estates of the family, descended to the late Marquis of Rockingham, and from him to the present owner Earl Fitzwilliam.

THE Series of Letters which a fortunate discovery has enabled me to lay before the Public being now closed, it remains that the principal facts which they allude to be connected by a short narrative ; and that the subject be completed by such particulars relating to the life of Radcliffe as have been derived from other sources.

The sudden and not very graceful conversion of Wentworth from a Patriot to a Courtier, opened new views upon his friend, and may be considered as a new æra in his life. This was one of the last, and undoubtedly one of the most important services which Buckinghamⁿ rendered to the King, for whom by this bargain he acquired in the place of a dreaded leader of opposition, not only a bold and able counsellor, but a faithful and affectionate friend. Happy would it have been for Charles, I will not say for the kingdom, had he known how to meet these qualities in his servant with a merited return of consistency and courage : it would have preserved himself, but it might have been the ruin of the Constitution. The first fruits, however, to Wentworth of his master's favour were a Barony, and soon after a Viscounty, with the Pre-

ⁿ Strafford's Letters, Appendix, p. 430.

sidency of the Court of York. This last was probably the bait which caught him; for Ambition, by which I would be understood to mean rather a love of power than of rank, was the ruling passion of this great man; and as he was not yet superior to provincial consequence, and had already been engaged in several competitions with his neighbours in Yorkshire, an offer of elevation, on his native soil, from the rank of a Country Magistrate, a Sheriff, or at most a Knight of the Shire, to a station equivalent almost to the Vice-royalty of a kingdom, could scarcely be resisted, while the exercise of it seems to have had too powerful an effect on a mind naturally elate and imperious.

This Court, which upon examination appeared to be grounded upon an ordinary commission of oyer and terminer, under the Great Seal of Henry VIII. was originally a legal and constitutional tribunal, constituted for the relief of that distant part of the kingdom from vexatious attendances on the courts at Westminster°. But though the deviations of successive Presidents from the rules of common law, or rather their usurpations of illegal power, had been uniformly progressive, yet the general equity and substantial justice of their proceedings had been sufficient to prevent any general cla-

° Lord Clarendon's Hist. Reb. vol. I. p. 188 et seq. See also his Speech on this occasion in Rushworth, vol. IV. pp. 230—231. And in Lord Clarendon's Life, vol. I. p. 128, a curious account of the treatment he received at York from an Attorney of this Court then lately abolished.

mour, and at the same time to permit the gradual formation of a vast and unlimited body of authority:—The common lawyers alone seem to have been aware of the growing evil.

Wentworth, who was not of a temper to confine himself in all cases within the limits even of ancient and established laws, was still less disposed to tie himself up by the cobwebs of “modern instances;” and accordingly, under his administration, the Court of the Lord President of the North became more arbitrary in its proceedings, as well as more offensive in the temper and tone with which it was conducted, than it had been under any of his predecessors.

To the Gentlemen of the Country, who had lately considered themselves as his equals, the harshness of his manner, which indeed was natural to him, gave frequent offence; and to this cause perhaps (as the Northern Members in the Long Parliament were the bitterest of his prosecutors) may ultimately be ascribed the loss of his head.

Radcliffe, who, having been convinced by the same logic which converted his master, had now become a prerogative lawyer, was constituted the King’s attorney in this court, and to him of course must be imputed whatever of exorbitant jurisdiction was there exercised in form, as the original contrivance and suggestion of it ought to be ascribed to Wentworth. Let me not, however, be misunderstood to mean, that, under their administration, the Court of York was ever perverted to the purposes of known injustice. They had both an exalted sense

of abstract right, but were too strongly inclined to the distribution of it according to maxims and principles of their own.

Here, however, Wentworth laboured to conciliate those whom he had frequently occasion to offend, by the most popular of all virtues, disinterested hospitality, having enclosed a noble park from the neighbouring forest of Galtrees, and keeping almost an open house at his own expence for suitors of rank and quality.

In this situation he remained somewhat more than two years, when his appointment to the office of Deputy of Ireland introduced George Radcliffe, together with Christopher Wandesford, of Kirklington, a common friend and equal relative of both, to very public and elevated stations in that country. Radcliffe was constituted Principal Secretary, an office which has always been regarded there as equivalent to Prime Minister; and Wandesford became in the first instance Master of the Rolls, afterwards one of the Lords Justices, and lastly Lord Deputy, in which station he died (the cruellest of all deaths) of a broken heart.

Here the province might be said to be made for the ruler, and the ruler for the province: Ireland, half conquered, half civilized^p, misgoverned by some former Deputies, and never com-

^p The general state of the Country at this time may be inferred from the Minutes of certain Bills intended to be offered in Strafford's first Parliament, viz. "For restraining the barbarous custom of ploughing by the tail (which is still continued), of pulling the wool off living sheep, burning corn in the

pletely governed by any, required a strong and decisive hand not over-solicitous about the forms of law, but anxious for the maintenance of order and the general welfare of the country; and such, precisely such a Governor it found in Wentworth.

⁹In a few years he paid off a debt of 80,000*l.*; returned out of his province, which had long been a dead weight upon England, a clear yearly revenue of 60,000*l.* to the crown; recovered to the church half that sum from lands which had been leased out by bishops and chapters; for every tun of shipping, which he found, left at least 100; increased the trade of the country in proportion; suppressed smuggling; but at the same time compelled the merchants, while he secured them from pirates in the navigation of the neighbouring seas, to pay their customs to the utmost; — and indeed, unhappily, conducted his whole administration in a temper suited to times which revered authority, and knew how to be thankful for measures of rough beneficence; at a period when mankind would straw, barking standing trees, forcing cows to give milk, and building houses without chimnies.” The nature of the last offence but one, I do not understand; but the whole enumeration proves that the common people must have been cruel, mischievous, and filthy in the highest degree. I have no where learned the fate of these extraordinary Bills. Strafford’s Letters, vol. I. p. 291.

⁹ For all these particulars, and many others equally honourable, which an age almost universally unjust to this great man’s memory has thought proper to forget, see Sir George Radcliffe’s Essay towards a Life of Strafford, Appendix to Strafford’s Letters, p. 434.

no longer be grateful for any thing, and had resolved not to be governed at all. Accordingly his reward for all these national benefits was an impeachment in another kingdom; and he was accused of levying war upon the King, for having in the King's service quartered a serjeant and four soldiers on a man who refused to pay his taxes!

But, to return—

Under this administration Radcliffe had ample scope for the display of his talents as a man of business and activity: for if Wentworth were the head, he was the right hand; almost all the details of government being conducted by him. Immediately on the Lord Deputy's arrival in Ireland, which was about the 1st of August 1633, he petitioned the King to issue letters that Mr. Radcliffe might be sworn of the Council, "there being many already at that Board almost as far beneath him in the State as they are in parts and understanding^r." The vigour and activity of Wentworth could not sleep, for on the third of the same month, it appears, that Radcliffe, by his directions, preferred and enforced a charge against the Bishop of Kilfenora^s before the Privy Council, "for that his Majesty did disdain to have his justice to his people and his religion to his God to be arraigned in so mean a kind by any subject." What was the nature of the charge I have not been able to learn; but Laud, in a letter to the Deputy, interceded

^r Strafford's Letters, p. 100.

^s Ibid, pp. 97, 114, 115

for the poor Bishop, who had written "a very pitiful letter"^t to him, and here the matter seems to have dropt.

Towards the close of the same year Radcliffe received the order of Knighthood, under which style he first appears in the following honest testimony from his friend when writing to the Lord Treasurer Weston: "On my faith there is not a minister on this side that knows any thing I either write or intend, except the Master of the Rolls and Sir George Radcliffe, for whose assistance in this government and comfort to myself amongst this generation, I am not sufficiently able to pour forth my humble acknowledgments to his Majesty. Surely I were the most solitary man without them that ever served a king in such a place."

^t Very "pitiful letters" indeed the Bishops were frequently constrained to write under Strafford's administration. But, in truth, many of them had been very blameable in granting leases, either for the enriching their own families, or to serve their Patrons, the great Lay Nobility; so that the value of many Sees was almost sunk to nothing. In return Strafford, though a friend to their Order, treated their persons with very little respect. Take his own account of a conversation with one of them: "I told him roundly he had betrayed the Bishopric, that he deserved to have his Rochet, saving the dignity of his calling, pulled over his ears; and so warmed his old sides, as I made him crave pardon." Letters, p. 170.—On another occasion, being offended with a certain Dignitary for his behaviour in Convocation, he promoted him, as a punishment, from a wealthy Deanery to a very poor Bishopric; when, to his infinite vexation and disappointment, the new Prelate, who, it seems, loved rank more than money, expressed his gratitude to the Lord Deputy in the warmest terms.

In 1634 Strafford, by the King's command, summoned a Parliament, which he opened in person with regal state. Of his conduct to the young Earl of Ormond at the opening of this assembly, a story is told by Carte in his life of that Nobleman, on the authority of Sir Robert Southwell, which reflects more honour upon Radcliffe than the Lord Deputy. It is this—Strafford, it seems, aware of the high spirit of the Irish nobility, had required that they should deliver their swords at the door of the House of Lords to the Gentleman Usher. To this indignity Ormond positively refused to submit; and on being urged by the Usher with some rudeness, to comply, told him, that if he had his sword at all he should have it in his guts. The Deputy was highly incensed, and having sent for Ormond, rated him for his disobedience. The Earl pleaded the writ by which he was summoned to appear, *gladio cinctus*: Strafford was perplexed, but not appeased; and having dismissed the Earl, consulted with Radcliffe whether he should crush him at once by an act of mere power, or win him to his service by applauding the courage and consistency of his behaviour. Radcliffe generously recommended the latter course, and by that means was the instrument of securing the fidelity and active services of that Nobleman to the Crown during the remainder of his days.

Such is the story, of which I can only wish that it had the merit of truth; for on turning to the record of this parliament I find that Ormond^u carried the sword of state before the De-

^u Strafford's Letters, vol. I. p. 285.

puty, and was therefore in a situation where no such contest could have happened.

In 1638 Radcliffe found leisure to visit his friends in England, where I meet with the following trait of his character, which shews that, though in general a man of grave deportment, he was not averse on some occasions to temperate conviviality. In a letter from Mr. Gerrard, Master of the Charter-house, the writer informs his correspondent, that he had supped with Sir George Radcliffe, who bid him an hearty welcome; "and I never saw a better good fellow in my life^x." This was a time, however, for more serious business; his visit to England having been intended for the King's service at the breaking out of the Scots' Rebellion, towards the suppression of which, or, as he expresses it, "to put the Scots into their right wits," Wandesford and himself each subscribed 500*l*. and Strafford 2000*l*. Returning to Ireland Northwards^y, probably in order to attend to his own concerns, he brought a message from the King to Sir Edward Osborn, Vice-president, to muster the forces of the county of York^z. In the following year he returned once more to England^a; and as Strafford's economy had enabled him to supply his master's necessities, a circumstance which probably had never before happened,

^x Strafford's Letters, vol. II. p. 180.

^y In a letter, dated July 24, 1638, Lord Clifford expresses his regret that Sir George Radcliffe did not return by Skipton.

^z Strafford's Letters, vol. II. p. 193.

^a Ibid. 325.

out of that country ^b, I find him taking order for the payment of the Soldiers at Penrith from that fund.—This was in May.

In the month of July he crossed the Irish Channel once more, and remained at his post till the impeachment of his master, when he was sent for by a messenger of the Commons to London, and committed to the custody of the Black Rod on a vague and indefinite charge of High Treason ^c.

The political guilt or innocence of Radcliffe is so completely identified with that of Lord Strafford, that it becomes necessary in a work consecrated to his memory, to investigate the grounds of that unexampled process by which the latter was sacrificed.

Whenever the Parliament of England, either in subservience or opposition to the Crown, has been induced to depart from its legislative or judicial character as singly and distinctly employed, and by bills of attainder to exercise a motley and inconsistent jurisdiction compounded of both, it may indeed have sometimes happened that the hand of Justice has thereby been enabled to overtake offenders who would otherwise have escaped with impunity, while innocent but unpopular men have more frequently been sacrificed to the prejudices and outcry of the day.

It is a melancholy fact, and not very honourable to human nature, that great bodies of men will, in their collective capa-

^b Ireland, which had been a sponge to draw, &c.—Lord Clarendon.

^c Rushworth.

city, occasionally venture upon a conduct of which almost every individual among them acting alone and independently would be ashamed. Would Pym, for instance, or Vane, or Hampden, sitting by themselves as Judges, have directed a Jury to find Strafford, had he been a commoner arraigned of the same offences at the bar of a county court, guilty of High Treason? Nay, would any twelve of the most inveterate of his enemies, impannelled as a jury, have dared to pronounce such a Verdict? But

Defendit numerus junctæque umbone phalanges.

Moreover, in seasons of popular agitation, the greater the body, the higher will be the degree of political fermentation of which it is capable. The voice of Conscience is stifled in the cry of Party. Fears and jealousies take place of enquiry and evidence. The leaders hope to drown their guilt in the multitude of their followers; the followers shelter themselves under the authority of the leaders; Necessity, the tyrant's plea, sanctifies every iniquity; and the act of five hundred men, instead of belonging to every individual in the number, is accounted the act of none.

If ever these truths were practically exemplified, it was in the instance of this unhappy Nobleman. In order to hunt him down, not only every maxim of English law, but every principle of natural equity, was laid aside. The facts charged upon him as High Treason might as well have been denomi-

nated Adultery^d; and because the Parliamentary Leaders, aided by some of the ablest and most unprincipled Lawyers of their time, found a total defect both of guilt and evidence in the case, they had recourse to a Law which should define a crime after the fact, and to a Bill of Attainder which was professedly to ground itself on a deficiency of legal evidence.

But Strafford was a dangerous Counsellor.

Perhaps so. Nay more: let it be granted that, both in the Court at York and in the Administration of Ireland, he had done many harsh and arbitrary things, while in the latter he had it still in his power to do more; yet, after all, the House of Commons possessing a constitutional mode of redress, could have no plea for resorting to such an atrocious deed as the taking away of his life. They might have presented a strong Petition to Charles (and they were already beginning to be acquainted with strong language in their addresses to their Sovereign) to dismiss so dangerous an adviser from his councils for ever.—But the King would have refused.—Still the legal remedy was with the Parliament: the King was distressed for money, while they held the purse-strings of the Nation, and, by refusing the supplies, they could have enforced their demand. This would have been the severest course which any House of Commons would

^d I adopt a strong expression used by one of the Parliamentary Lawyers in the case of the Eleven Bishops.

have pursued in the most factious period of the present reign. But the Leaders of the Long Parliament were men of blood. "Stone dead," said the Earl of Essex, "hath no fellow;" and the Solicitor General St. John threw off the mask, when he avowed that Strafford must be knocked on the head like a wild beast. For this purpose, they very consistently betook themselves to the absurd principle of "accumulative treason^e."

I call it absurd, because in Jurisprudence, as well as in Nature, the aggregate mass can be no other than homogeneous with the materials of which it is composed; and therefore to complicate a treason out of a certain quantum of misdemeanors is no less irrational than to declare, *ex post facto*, that ten petty larcenies shall constitute a burglary, or twenty frauds a forgery, and then proceed against the offender accordingly.

* The distinction between accumulative and constructive treason, of which it is no wonder that it should be mistaken by ordinary writers, when it is overlooked by Blackstone himself, is well defined in the Preamble to the Act for reversing Lord Strafford's Attainder:—"Whereas Thomas late Earl of Strafford was impeached of High Treason, on pretence of endeavouring to subvert the fundamental laws: and whereas the turbulent party then prevailing did at last resolve to attempt the destruction of the said Earl by an Act of Parliament to be therefore purposely made, to condemn him upon Accumulative Treason, none of the pretended crimes being Treason apart, and so could not be in the whole (if they had been proved, which they were not); and also adjudged him guilty of Constructive Treason, that is, levying war against the King, though it was only a commanding an Order of the Council Board in Ireland to be executed by a Serjeant at Arms," &c.

But the justice of the Long Parliament was of too exalted a nature to be tied up by the musty precedents of inferior courts; regarding the end, the leaders^f of that body nobly despised the means; and, foreseeing that the impunity of Strafford would be *their* destruction, and that *his* ruin would be followed by that of his Master, they were no such puny casuists as to suffer either law or conscience to stop their course. In this they judged wisely. Strafford would have gone to work with the five Members in another manner than Lord Digby and his ill-advised Master: Law and Prerogative united were yet strong enough to have crushed them. These engines, which the Court had unskillfully disjoined, he was purposing to combine anew; but his enemies had the start of him by a few hours only; and it was only the sacrifice of his head which preserved theirs.

On the whole, the Long Parliament were crafty enough to lay in a stock of popularity by beginning plausibly and well. By lopping those deformed and unsightly branches which in a course of ages had grown out of the fair trunk of the English Constitution, they prepared their countrymen to look on without suspicion while the axe was laid to the root. The Marshals Court, and that of York, the High Commission, and the Star-chamber, were abolished with the approbation and assistance of many wise and excellent men, who afterwards became the firmest adherents of the Crown. But from this point the two

^f In the foregoing paragraph I must be understood to speak of the Parliament collectively—in the present one, of a few factious leaders.

parties changed sides, and every subsequent act of the Commons was an attack upon the Constitution, which converted Charles at once into the defender, not of his own rights only, but with them of the rights of his people.

As this is a light in which the subject has seldom been viewed of late, it may be proper to select two instances out of the general course of the Parliament's proceedings at that period, which with every unprejudiced mind must place the matter out of doubt. Of these the first is their abolition of the Bishops' votes in Parliament, which cut off at a single stroke one of the three estates of the kingdom^g, and one more ancient by far than the Commons themselves. The second, namely, their demand of the Militia, was equivalent to demanding a transfer of the executive government upon themselves; it was, in fact, dethroning the King; while on the other hand, Charles, by refusing to pass this monstrous Bill, was simply using the power which the fundamental Law of the Land had vested in him; and the Commons, by exercising their own unheard-of ordinance, without and against his consent, at once began the war, and dissolved the Constitution.

^g The Lords Spiritual, the Lords Temporal, and the Commons. See Blackstone, vol. I. p. 156, and Lord Clarendon's Life, vol. I. p. 101, ed. 1759. It is very true that the first Bill offered by the Commons for this purpose during Strafford's imprisonment was thrown out by the Lords, who had not as yet lost all spirit and understanding: but their ability to maintain the integrity of their own body lasted not long.

Yet there are persons who still affect to believe that in this fatal quarrel the King was the aggressor.

What! after a long course of concession and conciliation, for which he had been thanked by the Commons again and again, and which had not been interrupted or succeeded by one unconstitutional act, was he the aggressor merely for pausing before he passed a Bill of suicide upon his own power, and of annihilation on that of his posterity? And let any man of common understanding reflect in what circumstances the King was to begin a war, or rather what were the powers of resistance which at that moment he possessed against Violence and Aggression? Driven from his capital, where he had scarcely strength to defend his own house at Whitehall from the rabble, with a train scarcely equal to that of an ordinary nobleman; his mint stopped, his forts seized, his towns shut against him, his fleet officered under new Commissions from the Parliament! What then, it may be asked, enabled him to make the stand he did, and in so short a time to present a formidable and equal front to his enemies? It was the persevering iniquity of the Commons, and the generous indignation of the Nobility and Gentry, awakened by those master-pieces of Law and Reason which Hyde, now taken into the inmost counsels of his Master, opposed to the cant and sophistry of the Parliament. On the whole, after repeated and attentive considerations of the subject, weighing, as I trust, impartially the representations of

both parties, and, above all, the chronology of facts, I feel a strong conviction that Charles from the beginning of the war acted upon the defensive; and therefore became, after the unhappy close of it, a real Martyr, not merely to his own rightful prerogative, but to the laws and liberties of England.

This digression, so far as the case of the Earl of Strafford constitutes the subject of it (and his attainder constituted a part of the same system of violence which this Parliament pursued from its first meeting in 1640), will not be thought impertinent, when it is considered that upon it depends much of the character of his faithful followers, and particularly of the subject of this memoir, as friends or enemies of their Country. For if, after having crushed this great man and his adherents, the subsequent conduct of the House of Commons had been temperate and constitutional, and in particular had they not manifested equal malignity against those wise and truly patriotic Counsellors who succeeded Strafford in the confidence of his Master, the presumption would have been, that their motives were upright, and their severity seasonable. As it was, their own subsequent enormities were the best apology for those whom they had undone, and proved their fears to have been excited, not for the Constitution, but for themselves^h.

^h What Radcliffe thought of his Master's real opinion with respect to the struggle between Liberty and Prerogative, may be collected from the following passage: "He always disliked the abuse of Regal power to the

Radcliffe's testimony being no longer useful to Strafford or formidable to his prosecutors, the articles of impeachment which had been exhibited against him were tacitly allowed to be frivolous, and he was set at libertyⁱ. No documents remain to prove where the next twelve months of his life were spent^k; but in 1643 he was with the King at Oxford, where his correspondence with the Marquis of Ormond, which has

oppression of subjects; yet it being most hard and difficult to keep the interests of King and People from encroaching upon each other, the longer he lived experience taught him that it was far safer that the King should increase in power, than that the People should gain advantages on the King."

Radcliffe's Essay towards the Life of my Lord Strafforde.—Strafford himself once spoke out on the subject of governing without Parliaments to his bosom-friend Laud: "I am confident that the King, being pleased to set himself in the business, is able, by his wisdom and Ministers, to carry any just and honourable act through all imaginary opposition; that to start aside for such panic fears, phantastic apparitions, as a Prynne or an Elliott shall set up, were the meanest folly; that the debts of the Crown being taken off you may govern as you please; and most resolute I am that work may be done without borrowing any help forth of the King's Lodgings." Letters, p. 173, A. D. 1633. Having said so much in favour of Lord Strafford, I have produced this highly exceptionable passage, which has hitherto lain concealed in the huge volume of his Letters, out of fairness to the other party.

ⁱ See Rushworth, vol. IV. p. 219.

^k I have not been able to discover him with the King at York, where his presence would have been useful, and might have been expected.

been printed by Carte¹, proves him still to have acted as Secretary for Ireland.

In this year he was admitted by his own University to the degree of Doctor of Laws, to which he was presented by his friend Dr. Steward, Dean of St. Paul's^m. As a mere Gownsmen he was unqualified to assist the King otherwise than by his counsels, and therefore continued in the quiet retreat of Oxford during the confusion of the two ensuing years, and until the King's affairs grew desperate. He then withdrew to France along with the younger Wandesford, and in the same vessel with Lord Cottington and the Chancellor of the Exchequer. To aggravate the calamity of exile, he was in this voyage, according to Lord Clarendon, pillaged

¹ As it is not my object to make a book, I forbear to reprint either these letters or those which may be found in Thurloe's State Papers. The latter are written not in cypher, but under fictitious names. Rochefort is Radcliffe himself; Francis, the Duke of York; Peter, the King; and Old Edward, I suppose to be either Sir Edward Nicholas or Chancellor Hyde. D. N. to whom most of the Letters are addressed, is conjectured by Thurloe to have meant "one Trappes;" but the initials are manifestly intended for Lady Radcliffe, the "Dear Nanne" of better days.

^m 1643, October 31, Doctor of Law. Sir George Radcliffe, Knight, sometime Gentleman Commoner of University College, presented by Dr. Richard Stewart, Dean of St. Paul's, actually created in a Convocation in the North Chapel (commonly called Ad. Brome's Chapel) of St. Mary's Church. Wood's Fasti, p. 361.

of five hundred pounds in money and jewelsⁿ, the slender provision which the iniquity of the times had allowed him to make for his subsistence abroad.

In this destitute condition, he found means, however, to reach Paris; where, excepting in the intervals of a few excursions, he seems to have spent the next ten years, occasionally corresponding with his wife and some other friends in England; though the greater part of his letters appears to have fallen into the hands of Thurloe.

Among the parties into which the exiled court was then divided, Radcliffe attached himself to that of the Duke of York, who had been commended to his care, as he constantly alledged, by the late King.

Whether, however, his influence with the young Prince were always judiciously exerted; and whether, in particular, his expedition to the Court of the Duke of Lorrain, without, or rather against, the Queen-mother's^o consent, were wisely planned; the admirers of Lord Clarendon, who notwithstanding gives Sir George Radcliffe an ample testimony for uprightness and dexterity in business^p, will permit themselves to doubt.

ⁿ Life of Lord Clarendon, vol. I. p. 209.

^o See a curious account of Radcliffe's reconciliation to the Queen-mother, A. D. 1652, through the intercession of the Marquis of Ormond, after this imprudent step, in Carte's Life of that Nobleman, vol. II. p. 158.

^p Radcliffe was a man very capable of business; and, if the prosperity of his former fortune had not raised in him some fumes of vanity and self-

The activity of his mind, and a want of attention to the exclusive genius of the church of Rome, next engaged him, in concert with his friend Dr. Steward^a, to attempt a conjunction between the Church of England and the Jansenists; whose views of the doctrine of Grace, as they were in direct hostility with the principles of Jesuits, certainly approximated to those of the purest among the Reformed Churches. But the entire devotion of this party, learned and enlightened as they were, to the discipline of Rome, frustrated, as might have been foreseen, a plan from which the projectors had anticipated much honour to themselves, and no less advantage to their own proscribed and persecuted Communion.

During Sir George Radcliffe's abode at Paris, years, anxiety, and want of those accommodations which his earlier conceitedness, was very fit to be advised with, being of a nature constant and sincere. Lord Clarendon's Life, vol. I. p. 243. The great Historian, though just in the main to Radcliffe (for he was incapable of doing intentional wrong to any man), always speaks of him with a certain degree of ill-humour; to account for which it has been conjectured, that Radcliffe, in the height of his fortunes, had behaved with some *hauteur* to Mr. Edward Hyde. It is more than probable, indeed, that he would regard the active instrument in abolishing his old Court at York with little kindness.

^a Richard Stewart, Dean of St. Paul's, and Provost of Eton. He, with that public-spirited man Sir George Radcliffe, did go very far in making accommodation between the Jansenists and the Reformed Party, our Author being then Chaplain to His Majesty King Charles II. Athenæ Oxon. part 2. p. 147.

habits had rendered necessary for him^r, brought on a stroke of the palsy; which had happily no effect on his understanding, and, as appears, very little on his spirits. With one side torpid and half dead, this faithful exile continued to the last actively employed in providing for his Master's present wants, and promoting his Restoration.

That event, the object of all his hopes, and the cause of bitter disappointment to his surviving friends, he was not permitted to see: the particulars of his journey from Paris, and the immediate occasion of his death (most probably the journey itself), are no where related; but it is certain that he expired at Flushing^s, May 25, O. S. 1657, in the sixty-fifth year of

^r The following sentence, though expressed in terms of great decency and resignation, exhibits a deplorable representation of his wants: "I am now labouring to get credit for a suit of clothes, which is more than I have made these five years; and now my old frippery growes thin, so that if so much cloth comes as will make a suit and cloak, I shall be overstored." March 15, 1656. — Thurloe, vol. IV. p. 581.

^s Lady Radcliffe survived her husband somewhat less than two years; and was interred in Westminster Abbey, with this epitaph on her grave-stone:

"Hic jacet

Anna Radcliffe,

Georgii, equitis aurati, conjux,

Et Francisci Trappes equitis filia

E comit. Ebor.

Obiit anno 1659,

Ætatis 58, Maii 13."

Dart's Westminster Ab. vol. II. p. 116.

his age, and was accompanied to his burial, at that place, by all the Royal Party, excepting the Chancellor of the Exchequer and a few others, who were then at Bruges^t.

Whether any monument^u were erected to his memory I know not, and inadvertently omitted an opportunity of enquiring, which the late disastrous expedition to that common grave of Englishmen would have afforded.

The character of Radcliffe, on which an undistinguishing and absurd panegyric^x has been written by Lloyd, while it was pursued with unappeasable rancour by the enemies of Strafford, when cleared of the false colouring with which

^t "Sir George Radcliffe was buried at Flushing upon Monday last: all the Cavaliers was at his byreal, except the Chancler and two more that was at Bridges. They are generally sorry for him; for they say hee was the best counsellor theyre master had." Thurloe, vol. V.—This was the natural language of recent grief—*sublatum quærimus*. But Radcliffe as a Counsellor, excepting in point of integrity, had no claim to be placed on a footing of equality with Hyde.

^u From an expression in Lloyd's Inscription to his Memory, I should infer that he never had any other—"Monumentum saltem Chartaceum ne desideraret vir ultra marmora perennandus." I have sought for a Portrait of Sir George Radcliffe in vain: it is certain that no engraving of him was known to Granger. Of Wandesford there was a very fine painting by Vandyke in the Houghton Collection; and there is extant of him a Mezzotinto, three quarters length, probably taken from the other.

^x David Lloyd's Memoirs of the Lives, &c. of noble Personages that suffered by Death, Sequestration, Decimation, &c.

partiality or prejudice have overlaid it, appears to be that of a man sincere and upright, warm in his attachments, and bitter in his resentments^y; of a sound rather than a brilliant understanding; of a temper firm and constant, such as rendered him capable of filling with dignity and usefulness an high ministerial office in the state. At the bar he is said to have been distinguished for his eloquence^z. As a man of business he was indefatigable; so that in addition to the Customs, Manufactures, and Navigation of Ireland, which during the government of Lord Strafford were committed almost entirely to the Secretary, Radcliffe, by bringing over workmen concealed in tubs from Rochel, was the first person who rendered the Alum-mines at Gisborough productive, or even not ruinous to the undertakers; beside which he had the merit

^y This part of Radcliffe's character is confessed by Lloyd himself; who assigns it as the reason for his being excepted from pardon in all Treaties with the King. For the same exception, in the Treaty of Newcastle, see Rushworth, vol. VI. p. 313. But from the year 1641 his political resentments must have been harmless; and it was probably the memory of Strafford, which procured for him this painful distinction.

^z "So happy his faculty of persuading, that it was said of his speeches, as of Cicero's, that the longest was the best. So subtle his wit, that a reverend Judge, upon his proceeding Barrister in the Inns of Court, pronounced him likely to become either the best or the worst instrument in the Commonwealth." Lloyd.—Radcliffe, had he foreseen that by the folly of some panegyrist his speeches would be compared with those of Cicero, must surely have exclaimed, "*Ne rubeam pingui donatus munere.*"

of adding an income of more than 12,000*l. per annum* to the Crown. For these, as the law then stood, were Mines Royal; as it was soon after interpreted, they became a *monopoly*: so little in those unhappy days were men aware that what was one year a duty would the next be construed into a crime. At the same time (for he seems to have delighted in employment) he had under his own management, whether as Owner or Agent we are not told, four Coal-mines, six Corn-mills, and twelve Woods in his native Country. The conduct of all these undertakings, public and private, was greatly facilitated by another accomplishment, namely, that Radcliffe wrote an excellent style for business, clear and strong, always grave, and without any portion of Strafford's playfulness, a quality which, as it seems to be almost inseparable from first-rate genius, is usually confined to it.

His domestic habits were those of the same exemplary friend, from whom, in the course of many years, he was rarely separated; and who, while he abhorred intemperance, was no enemy to rational conviviality. In private life he seems to have been very amiable: throughout his rising fortunes, ever attentive to an aged mother in the country; and in his exile, affectionately mindful of a wife, whom he had been compelled to leave behind him, as well as of an only and valetudinary son, whom he had made his companion. To the young Earl of Strafford (who had been left to his care and

that of Wandesford ^a) he behaved with the freedom and authority of a father ^b. Even with his own master, notwithstanding the awe which his overbearing temper and superlative talents created in all around him, Radcliffe sometimes remonstrated so effectually, as to curb his exorbitances.

The letters exhibited in the former part of this Collection, shew that Religion had a deep and early root in his heart. It were to have been wished that those which follow had also led to another conclusion; that this principle had been improved by affliction, or even that it had not been, in some slight degree, impaired by a Court: yet his last letter to Strafford, which came from an heart deprived of all earthly comfort, and was directed to another in circumstances even more afflicting, is a master-piece of animating zeal and Christian consolation. And, after all, this was not a blaze suddenly rekindled out of half-extinguished embers by the blast of adversity; for long before this season of trial, and in his highest exaltation, Strafford had such an opinion of Radcliffe's seriousness, as on certain solemn occasions to make him his confessor. Let not modern levity smile at this instance of religious confidence

^a "I make my beloved friends Christopher Wandesford (now Lord Deputy of Ireland) and Sir George Radcliffe, knt. mine Executors of this Will. And I will that they receive all the rents of all my lands during the minority of my son the Lord Rabye. I commend the care of the education and government of my said son to my said Executors." — Extract from Lord Strafford's Will, dated July 2d, 1640. *MS. penes Editorem.*

^b See Letter 36, p. 237, of this volume.

between two laymen, and men of the world. Strafford was a severe scrutinizer into his own heart; and the humble confessions he would sometimes make to his friend, of infirmities which would now be thought trivial, sufficiently contradict the calumnies of his enemies, on the subject of his moral character. It was not the religion of Strafford, but that of the party who destroyed him, which tended to reconcile devotion with immorality^c.

The part of Radcliffe's conduct on which the friends of his memory will dwell with least complacency seems to have been his instantaneous conversion from a popular to a prerogative lawyer, and his consequent transition from prison to preferment — changes in which, it is to be feared, interest or personal attachment (as is too often the case with political men) had a larger share than the convictions of conscience. But

^c Several characters of this sort, uniting high religious profession with great profligacy of manners, have been delineated with a powerful and indignant hand by Mrs. Hutchinson, in a work, for which, though she meant nothing less, the Friends of Loyalty in the great Rebellion are deeply indebted to her. The Hutchinsons, with excellent understandings and upright intentions, were frank enthusiasts, who really believed it to have been revealed to them from Heaven, that the Cause of the Parliament was the Cause of God; and that the execution of the King was a point of duty. Otherwise, their elegance and accomplishments would have directed them to better company. They were, indeed, sufficiently punished by the Society to which their own principles condemned them.—See Memoirs of Colonel Hutchinson, lately published.

he followed his Patron, who had been taken off from the Country Party by a bargain with Buckingham, at a time when the Court had neither done, nor forborne to do any thing, which could warrant so quick a transition from distrust and opposition to confidence and support. How seldom will the conduct of public men bear to be weighed in the balance of the sanctuary!

Wentworth and Radcliffe, however, were plainly right in the issue; and it may be conjectured, that even then^d they had discovered something in the views of the Parliamentary Leaders, from which their penetrating understandings would discern much of the mischief which was to follow.

Sir George Radcliffe, though a ready and copious writer, prepared nothing for the press. This is to be regretted; as his *Hints for a Life of Strafford*, which he of all men was best qualified to undertake, prove that it would have been written with feeling and spirit. Such indeed, and so agitated were those times, that every contemporary who wrote about them at all, wrote from the heart; but on this subject none could have written like Radcliffe, from information strictly original, and from the fulness of an highly cultivated understanding, animated by all the zeal of surviving affection for the memory of a murdered friend.

The features of the mind are seldom, like those of the countenance, transmitted by hereditary descent. Genius and

^d In 1628.

talents are gifts (not always blessings), for the most part, unaccountably dropped down upon men. To illustrate this position, Strafford and Radcliffe had each a son, whose mediocrity of intellect and neutrality of character would most probably have conducted them safe through that storm which overwhelmed their fathers. But the mighty oak, after it has been laid prostrate by a tempest, is long remembered; while the feeble sapling, which springs out of its stock, dwindles through the period of its existence, and is forgotten; and accordingly William Earl of Strafford and the Right Honourable Thomas Radcliffe^e (for the latter owed the rank of

^e Thomas Radcliffe died at Dublin without issue, and unmarried—having devised all his estates to an aunt and a domestic. He was brought, however, for interment to Thornhill; where, in the parish church, the following Inscription to his memory remains, though half obliterated.

“ M. S.

Thomæ Radcliffe, Arm.

Qui ex illustri Radcliviorum familiâ ortus,

Georgii Militis & Annæ Traps filius,

Candidâ mente & felicissimâ indole imbutus,

Variis artibus & scientiis ornatus,

Et mirabili morum suavitate præditus,

Postquam per plurimos annos exul,

Exulis Regis sui causâ,

Regiones exteras peragraverat;

Tandem post reducem Regem

In Hiberniam se contulit;

Regique ibidem à sacris conciliis inserviens,

Secundis rebus non magis elatus

Quàm antehac adversis depressus,

a Privy Counsellor in Ireland to his father's fame), however beloved by their private friends, had no other claim to the remembrance of after-ages, than that they were respectively the offspring of those two memorable persons, whose talents, activity, and sufferings, constitute, almost in equal proportions, the subject of this Account.

Pietate, temperantiâ, probitate, cæterisque virtutibus

Adeò inclaruit,

Ut non eget * fucosis laudibus,

Nec hoc monumento,

Ad famam ejus perpetuandam :

‘ Memoria quippe justî manet in æternum.’

XIII Kal. Julii MDCXXIII. in agro Eboracensi natus,

III Kal. Nov. MDCLXXIX. Dublinii denatus,

Unica familiæ suæ spes improles & cœlebs

Hic & in mille amicorum pectoribus

Reconditus jacet ;

Cui Margareta Traps matertera & Joshua Wilson domesticus

Heredes ex asse instituti,

Hoc quaecunque tam gratitudinis

Quàm memoriæ monumentum,

Suis sumptibus erigi curârunt.”

It is the genius of epitaph writing to say much of a man when dead, of whom nothing was said when living. All that remains of Thomas Radcliffe is a letter of four lines ; and, excepting an incidental mention or two of him in his father's correspondence, I know not that the subject of this long panegyric has been noticed by one contemporary writer.

* Qu. egeret ?

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ERRATA.

- Page 5, line 16, for "presented," read "presents."
 Page 8, Note, for "which 1500*l.* would then have done," read "for which 1500*l.* would then
 have been sufficient."
 Page 11, line 3, read "nearly undeviating."
 Page 23, Note, line 5, for "Dragon of Wortley," read "Dragon of Wantley."
 Page 60, Note, line 3, for "paternal," read "maternal."
 Page 123, line 8, for "driving," read "by driving."
 Page 182, Note, for "Theanor," read "Nicanor."
 Page 191, Note, after "it," insert "was."
 Page 257, Note, for "day," read "year."
 Page 262, Note, for "Helvoetsluys," read "Flushing."
 Page 3, for "Mary," read "Elizabeth."







Whitaker, Thomas D.

The life and original correspondence of George Rudcliffe

London 1810

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